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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

JANUARY 1, 1984

NO. 1

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## OUR GOD, OUR HELP

Our God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of thy throne,  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is thine arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting thou art God,  
To endless years the same.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood,  
With all their lives and cares,  
Are carried downward by the flood,  
And lost in foll'wing years.

- Isaac Watts



## THE NEW YEAR

At this season there is much interest in the soon-to-come new year. It is often a season of resolution making. The new year is looked at as a new beginning. It is a time to start over. Too often the resolutions anticipating change are not followed by the necessary activity to bring them into being. While there is a lot of interest in what is new we find that the new year soon becomes a near carbon copy of the year just past unless there is a change made in our lives.

We live in a dynamic age. There is much that is new and exciting. We are living in a time of great knowledge and achievement. We are in the age of computers. Men speak of more great achievements ahead. But is this all so new? The wise man reminds us that there is nothing new under the sun.

While computers as we know them did not exist in Solomon's day, still they did have basic concepts of mathematics and science that are a part of the computer. Too often we are liable to claim too much for our present age. Perhaps we are not as advanced as we might hope or wish. Archaeologists continue to dig up objects of the past which show the people of those long-ago-times to be more advanced than we might wish to give them credit for. We have allowed evolutionary thought to shape our opinion and belief about many things including the intellectual attainments of those of ancient times. While we believe that God created man, we also think of that man as being slow and unwise. We consider ourselves to have evolved to be much smarter and more adept than our long gone ancestors. To consider ourselves so much more advanced than Adam is to ignore the fact that Adam was perfectly formed by God. We look back at these ancestors with disdain yet we must look through glasses and with other artificial helps.

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While we may assail Adam and Eve for their failure to hold on to perfection, we must realize that we have retained the same human nature that led them to disobedience. Man may seemingly advance himself through culture and education yet his nature remains the same. Men are ever lovers of darkness and sin. Men have the capacity to lie, cheat, steal and murder. While there may be a veneer thrown over this nature, it is still there and still leads us into sin. The rebellious and self centered nature of man continues to draw him from God and toward the enemy of his soul.

While change is going on about us so rapidly, it is reassuring to know that God is unchanging. Man can only look back from a life a few decades at best. He can only look further through the lessons of history which is an inaccurate account even when most thoroughly researched. But God looks back through eternity. His characteristics and attitudes have not changed no matter how much man changes even in a few years. God has created man and dealt with him but His ways have not changed. Man may speak of falling in love and out of love but God's love is ever constant. Men's views of justice and truth may change through the influence of pragmatic concerns but God is just and true whatever men's ideas may be. Men ever change their standards to meet the immediate situation. God's standards never change. What was right for Adam and Eve is still right for us today. God's standard is high and as His people our standards should also be high.

So often we build our lives on the sands of men's ideas and opinions. We should be thankful that we can build for eternity upon a Rock instead of the shifting, unstable sands of this world. We should be thankful the plan of salvation is unchanging. Just as Jesus, the Rock, is unchanging, so is the plan of salvation, which is our way to God through Jesus. If the way were constantly shifting, we could never find our way to Him. If the plan of salvation and our standards changed with each change of men's thoughts we would be helplessly confused and lost. Just as a rock is unyielding so God's plan is sure and steady. In a world of constant change, we can lay hold of that which is solid and unchanging.

While we think of the new year as a time of change, it is good to know that God and His relationship with us is unchanging. The years may change, men's ideas and ideals may shift but God remains constant. His demands upon us and His love for us remains the same.

If we seek change with the changing year, then let it be the change from the fickleness of men to the unchangeableness of God. Our change should be to be built upon that unchanging Rock, Jesus Christ so we can enjoy eternity with our God. May

this new year mean for each one not change but God's solidness exhibited in each life.

## IN THE BEGINNING

John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

This is the time of the year that we think of new beginnings. Some make New Year's resolutions. Hospitals give prizes to the first child born in the new year. Some individuals give their house a good cleaning so none of the old dirt is left.

There are those who would have you believe that the beginning of Jesus Christ was in a stable in Bethlehem. But as our opening verse teaches He is eternal, the same as the Father. This verse also teaches us that, in the mystery of the Trinity, He was indeed, God. ELOHIM, the Hebrew word for the Trinity, was always in existence. Our finite minds can not completely fathom this great truth. Psalms 90:2 "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hast formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God."

The name of the first book of the Bible, Genesis, is derived from a Greek word meaning "origin" or "beginning." In the first book of the Bible in the first verse we meet the Trinity. "In the beginning God (ELOHIM) created the heaven and the earth." This is why Paul could write in Colossians 1:16 "For by him (Jesus Christ) were all things created that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:"

We cannot think of these verses without being reminded of the diabolical teaching of evolution. The acceptance of this teaching by many within the earthly church has led to the acceptance by some of the lie of all lies, the evolution of religion. To accept this supreme lie is to accept the "fact" that God did not create man but that MAN CREATED GOD! While some are very outright in their defense of evolution, the more dangerous thinking is "it DOES NOT MATTER whether God used evolution or creation."

We are also reminded of the attack upon the truth of the Trinity by denial or addition. While the cults and false teachers within the established churches deny the reality of the Trinity, (some outright and others by denying the virgin birth), the Roman Catholic church denies it by addition. They would include Mary, the Mother of Jesus, as a way to the Father and to receive forgiveness of sin, along with the office of an "infallible" Pope.

When we think of beginnings we think of our Brethren heritage.



The Brethren faith came about not because of some supposed vision or special prophecy, but through a serious study of the Bible. Our heritage is linked to those throughout the ages who have sought to live by scripture and to stand against false teaching. We are linked to such groups as the Waldensians, who had some light but not completely so. We, personally, believe that there were small groups that have been lost to history because of great persecution who held to the truths of scripture ever since the New Testament church. The Anabaptists had a great influence on Brethren thought along with the Pietists. We feel there is a real comparison between the birth of Jesus Christ and the birth of the Brethren movement. While Jesus Christ was present with the Father from eternity past, He was born of human form nearly two thousand years ago. Likewise, while the true Church has always existed since its birth at Pentecost, we believe it was "reborn" in the Anabaptist and Brethren movement.

As we stated, the Brethren desire was to "return" to the truths of scripture. There are those today who teach that we should always go forward and never look back. In a sense this is true. The fact is it is impossible to return to the past. But we can practice the truths of scripture today and desire to keep the faith for those in the future, if the Lord should tarry.

There have been some "beginnings" which we have serious questions about. Much is made within Christian circles concerning the "revival movement" of the late 1700's and early 1800's which continued into the early 1900's. The Brethren refused to have a part in this movement, and we believe rightly so. While we would not say that there was NO good that came out of this movement, we feel there was also much error that came along with the "good". While we doubt if the early Brethren were as quiet as their modern counterparts, there was an extreme emotionalism brought about through this movement. It also carried with it the false teaching that America is the "New Israel." We also feel that a lot of the "new light" concerning prophecy that came with this movement may very well have been "light" from the wrong source!

If you would desire to have a "new beginning" in your life, Jesus Christ gives you the offer to be "born again" in John 3:3. This is more than a resolution. It is giving your life over into the hands of Jesus Christ and allowing the Holy Spirit to make you into a new creature. Acts 2:38 "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name (the power) of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Brother James M. Hite  
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## NEW FOR THE NEW YEAR

A new year, a new day, and a new page on your calendar — what will you do with it? You can fill it with your same old thoughts and desires, your same old activities, making it just like the last year. Or, you can allow Jesus to be Lord of your life, and have a truly new year, not just an old one which you've patched up with some soon-forgotten resolutions.

"There is no new thing under the sun." Read Ecc. 1:9-10. Whatever one finds and thinks is new is not, as it was already here. The world is the same, man and his ways are the same, God and all creation are the same. Why then should we concern ourselves with anything new in our lives? The answer — because man is out of step with God, and needs to be renewed spiritually.

"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lam. 3:23. If it were not for God's continuing mercy, new each day, there would be no opportunity to get right with God and be the new person He wants us to be. His compassion remains constant, and is manifested to us through Christ.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. A new creature is just that — new. Nothing remains the same. The old creature is not good and needs to be changed. Mere change alone isn't good, but when Christ does the changing, the result is good and pleasing to God.

This new creature in Christ has several characteristics. "A new heart will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you." Ezek. 36:26a. He does not patch up the old mind and heart, but makes it new. New desires will replace the old ones. New thoughts will fill the mind, and be expressed in a new life. This new creature will be Christ-controlled.

"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." Eph. 4:23-24. When this renewal takes place, you will know it, and others will know it too. A new spirit, a new heart and mind all make a new man, a Godly one.

"And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God; and he shall go no more out: ... and I will write upon him my new name." Rev. 3:12. When you are made a new creature in Christ, it is not for just a few years on this earth. God desires that you will be faithful to Him, and if you are, He will have a special place for you in Eternity.

"New for the New Year" is what you should be, and then continue in Christ. Serve Him, be a new person in heart and mind,



not just an old creature you have tried to patch up. A new year, a new day, and a new page on your calendar — what will YOU do with it?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **UNKNOWN JOURNEY**

Everyone wants to be a success. No one wants to be a loser. We have all seen a big strong football player sit on a bench and cry because his team was losing a football game. Possibly the world remembers the winner and forgets the loser. We have won some victories during 1983. Let us thank God for them and give Him even better service in the coming year. Let us thank God, too, for another chance.

The dictionary says to succeed is "to attain the desired object or end." God wants us to be successful. He wants us to be great, not mediocre. He wants us to be extraordinary and not ordinary. He wants us to be radiant and bright instead of discouraged and discontented pilgrims. He wants us to be full of hope and peace and power and not bound down with the cares and problems of the world.

We are about to enter a new year. We are taking our journey into the unknown. With Joshua we can say that: "We have not passed this way heretofore." I believe that God wants His people to be happy and He promised this if we follow Him closely. The whole secret lies in putting Him first in the New Year. Matt. 6 records Jesus talking about material things and He says, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." I believe this is God's formula for prosperity and happiness in 1984. The Lord will give you the necessities of life in the New Year and cause your heart to sing with joy IF you give Him first place in your life.

There are several areas that should become more compelling in the coming year. 1) Read the Bible more. It will help you meet the toils and to stand the dangers and overcome the temptations of life. Earthly foundations will crumble and fall, but God's Word will stand. GOD IS IN THE BOOK and it comes to us through a river of blood of martyrs for Christ's cause.

2) Prayer is the vital breath of your spiritual life. You can never have a strong Christian character until you spend adequate time with God. There is no winning without it.

3) Live a more consecrated Christian life. All of your prayers and Bible reading will go for naught unless it is backed up by

consecrated living. There should be no compromising with the world. Walk with God in faithfulness to the church. Walk with Him in faithful service in the mainstream of the Body. Give your best... the first fruits... to Him, not the left-overs.

4) Walk with Him in separation from the world. Rom. 12:2 instructs us to not be conformed to this world but be transformed. Transformation represents a drastic change. Make it NOW!

5) Witness more for Jesus. Look back over the past year right now. Look back over the past several years... even to the time that you were saved. Can you remember a soul whom you have pointed to Jesus Christ? This may be your last chance to earn the "soul winners crown." Don't face the Saviour empty handed.

If you could know for certain that this would be your last year, I am sure that you would turn your back on the world and live sincerely for God until the day of death. Young people, you are beginning another voyage... truly you are journeying into the unknown. May God help you to take the Lord with you each day and never leave His side for a moment during the coming year. In doing this you can look forward to those sought after words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matt. 25:21.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## **SPIRITUAL EXERCISES FOR THE CONSCIENCE**

"And in this do I exercise myself to have always a conscience void of offense toward God, and toward man." Acts 24:16.

In Acts 23:1 we see Paul before the Hebrew council pleading for his conscience. "Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day."

And now before the Roman Governor Felix, he declared his soul and mind exercises had been all through his life to keep his conscience clear of having offended either God or man.

Christian artists have endeavored with pictures to portray this dramatic scene of Paul's life. But the Bible student will go deeper as the whole book of Acts is studied; with the epistleary-writings, and especially the Gospels and Revelations. Praises be to God for His written Word, Apostles and prophets, and also for this "Apostle" to the Gentiles, Rom. 11:13.

The Jewish world had been shocked at the spectacle of this highly trusted Pharisee being turned into a Christian Apostle. His

plea of a clear conscience seemed contradictory. It called for more explanation and testimony.

Paul repeatedly confessed that a great light from Heaven and from a resurrected and ascended Jesus speaking to him was indeed the cause and start of his conversion to Christ and his following apostleship.

"The light that shined" had brought the knowledge of the Truth in Jesus as Saviour and Lord. The Jewish law veil (II Cor. 3:18) was lifted from his spiritual vision. In Christ's atoning blood his past sins were covered. His conscience was now cleared in the marvelous light of the Gospel.

In this great change of his life the former persecutor of the Christians becomes an exponent of a believer's conscience before God. Where at one time he would have conspired to compel some weak Christian to blaspheme the name of Jesus, with no qualms of conscience, he now was a protector of even the weak brother's conscience, as he said, "For God hath received him."

We owe much to Paul to properly understand the fact and action of our own conscience "Toward God and toward man." Of all the Bible writers, he uses this word more than any other inspired writer.

Paul in our study text, intimates that a certain effort is imperative to keep the conscience clear, so it may properly function before God. The word exercise should be very suggestive to Christians today. Modern machinery has so lifted the daily burden of the toiler, he must find some other exercise to keep a healthy mind and body. Its benefits are only to those who willingly and enthusiastically exercise daily.

The conscience is first "toward God", and only by His grace and power can it withstand the attacks of "seducing spirits and doctrines of demons." For here indeed the small foxes spoil the vine, with its tender grapes." Song of Solomon 2:15.

First in permissiveness and complacency; then with a rush of willful sin "to sear the conscience as with a hot iron." I Tim. 4:2. The one with the seared conscience soon becomes Satan's tool for evil.

Christ's true disciple will take the conscience along for inspection in each secret prayer session with God. Ps. 51:6, "Behold thou desireth truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part (conscience) thou shalt make me to know wisdom." Here indeed the Holy Spirit brings light, as Christ says, John 16:15 "He shall take of mine and show it unto you." His heavenly light illuminates the written words of God to our understanding. (More,



we can trust Him to give us proper words to speak in every future emergency.)

This heart searching light has power for beyond the doctor's x-ray; for it, by the Word of God goes deep into soul and spirit. Heb. 4:12, "For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Both open and secret sins are revealed in this heart searching truth. Both sins of commission and sins of omission appear. The Word of God also gives the true remedy for this blighting evil seed of error. For these evil thoughts and intents of the heart that soon fasten upon the soul as secret habits, secretly enjoyed.

The way to subdue the old nature within, is to first "confess our sins." We are not to say "we have no sin" and so "deceive ourselves." The blood of Jesus will cover all confessed sin. The old sin nature is to be always resisted to eradicate sin habits and secret enjoyments of them.

Deep rooted sin habits are difficult faults that damage both conscience and outward testimony for Christ. They stunt all spiritual growth and tend at times of compromising with Satan in careless words and uncertain examples for children and youthful Christians. As this affects the fellowship of saints, we are directed in James 5:16 to confess them to a trusted fellow believer. United prayer for this much desired healing of the conscience has great promise of reward. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Eccl. 4:9-12. "And a three-fold cord is not quickly broken."

The babe in Christ is leaving that "babe" stage of new life when self-judgment is learned and the conscience is being disciplined in this holy spiritual exercise.

I Cor. 11:31-32 "For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged... But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world."

With other voices shut out, the disciple learns to listen for that "still small voice of the Holy Spirit". Jesus said, "He shall take of mine and shall show it unto you." He it is who brings the spirit light and life of God's Truth from the sacred Word to the understanding of the heart and mind intellect.

James 1:21, "Wherefore, lay aside all filthiness and all superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word which is able to save your souls."

James D. Cover

## JESUS DISEASE

There is an epidemic disease that is not talked about very often. This disease can be very contagious but many times it is not passed from person to person. This disease does not make you sick with the fever, or put you in the hospital. It is just contrary to that, everybody rejoices when they get this disease. They do not know how they survived all these years without this disease. What is this disease I'm writing of? It is the Lord Jesus Christ!

As Christians we have Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour. We should not keep Him all to ourselves. Jesus says in Matt. 5:14 "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill can not be hid." If we do not share this experience with others we will not be able to light the world. We would be just like the man who attended a Christian Seminar every year, but when he went home he told no one. He kept everything to himself. He was a Stale Christian. We should spread His love disease like a grain of mustard seed. "It is like a grain of mustard seed, which when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it." Mark 4:31-32.

Where should we spread this disease? Jesus tells in Mark 16:15 "... Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." He also tells us to: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matt. 28:19. He says that we should go to all the nations of this world. That also means our next door neighbor, our boss, our family, and so forth. They are living in a nation of this world. So we must not forget them. We do not need to spread this disease by preaching from the Word everytime we meet a sinner. We can witness to sinners by the way we live, how we handle situations, and how we share our love. A little girl once said to her mother, "Do you love Jesus?" "Why yes, my child, but why do you ask?" "Well, Mama, you speak of Papa, of Auntie Mae, and Uncle Joe, but I never hear you talk about Jesus. I thought if you loved Him, I'd sometimes hear you say so." From that day on that Mother was determined to let it be known that she truly did love Jesus.

How do you show that you love Jesus? Do you care for the poor and sick? Do you share a sunny day with the shut-in? Do you pray for those sinners you are witnessing to? Are you constantly degrading colleagues or do you pray for them and openly love them? By just letting your light shine and smiling to others, you



will be sharing and spreading this Jesus disease.

When you go to share this Jesus disease with friends, don't sit down and prepare a long speech. Jesus tells us; "... take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak." "For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist." Luke 21:15. "Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual." I Cor. 2:13. Since you have spoken His words you have done the Lord's work. You have tried to spread this disease.

Speak out for Christ! Stand up for Christ. When Christ's name is taken in vain, show your love for Christ. To remain silent when someone uses God's name in vain is: "And if a soul sin, and hear the voice of swearing, and is a witness, whether he hath seen or known of it; if he do not utter it, then he shall bear his iniquity." Lev. 5:1. A Godly farmer was attending a meeting of an agricultural society. Some of the men were freely using the words, "devil", and "hell." He felt uneasy, but said nothing. Then someone said, "Jesus Christ!" Immediately the farmer spoke up. "Sir, you may speak lightly of YOUR master, but when you take MY Master's name in vain, I object. Talk about your master, the devil, if you want to, but please leave my Lord out of it."

Has anyone caught the Jesus disease from you? If not, let your love for Jesus be contagious and let your love shine out to those who are lost in the depths and darkness of sin.

I want to close with an anonymous poem:

How glad you'll be when life is done,  
And when you take that final breath,  
To know some word of yours had helped  
To save a soul from death!

In Christian love,  
Sister Mabel L. Sweitzer  
Box 931 Elizabethtown College  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

January 1, 1924

### SIN OF ACHAN VERSUS MODERN SIN

H. E. Miller

If we will look back a little over 1400 years ago just as the children of Israel were passing into the promised land from the

wandering in the wilderness, in Joshua 7, we will find there recorded the sin of Achan, and while we find the special sin there described as that of coveting by his own statement, yet we see that also it was the sin of disobedience, and pride. Achan disobeyed the command of the Lord as recorded by Joshua that nothing should be taken or spared of the accursed city of Jerico, and that all things therein were accursed, save Rahab and her house, but when Achan saw the wedge of gold fifty shekels weight, two hundred shekels of silver and the Babylonish garment, probably the most beautiful garment he had ever seen, he at once coveted them.

Just so today, the modern sin, the people are coveting the things of this world, wearing of gold rings, beads, fancy pins and so forth, worldly amusements, shows, and the dance. We notice here that Joshua got busy at once praying to God about their trouble, but, Brethren, notice will you, God comes on the scene and tells Joshua that it is no time for prayer (Joshua 7:10 and 11). Why are you on your face praying? Get up, get busy, get sin out of the camp. Notice, now, what the Lord said about the sin of Achan. Israel hath sinned, and have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff, noting that the word dissemble means hiding away or covering up, then we see how the people of today try to hide away their guilt from the church.

We do not wish to discourage prayer, but we are just wondering if the time isn't here when we had better take off time from prayer to hunt up some of the sin in the camp and cast it out. Christ said through His Word for the church to keep unspotted from the world, not to be proud, disobedient, boastful; and to keep his commandments; and we hear said today, so often, that keeping the commandments will not save anyone; but these same teachers and preachers fail to impress on the people that neither can one be saved that does not keep them; thereby instilling in them a false doctrine, and instead of teaching against the follies of the modern religion, leaders are teaching them to cover up with unbelief. The penalty that Achan paid was, he, his sons, his daughters, and all he had were burned with fire.

I am made to wonder in this day, by the older ones disregarding the commandments, and following the fashions of the world if they can expect anything else than that the children will follow in their footsteps, and just as sure as God is true they must meet the penalty. Many leaders and people of today that talk so much about the love of God do not know what it is. They think that it will be so

great that people can go along in sin and yet escape the punishment of God; when he plainly teaches that those who have his love will have to war continually against sin and when they find it in the church will put it out at any cost. All recognize John the apostle as one with the love of God. Please read I John 2:3 to 6, and see what he said it consisted of and follow all through his writings and on into the Revelation and see what the Love of God is.

## THE RIGHT WAY

Beware of those who teach religion,  
And really don't care what you do.  
If it's not in line with God's Word  
There'll be no salvation for you.

Search the Words of the Testament,  
(We live under grace, not the law).  
And if you wish a Home in Heaven  
There's a line that you must draw.

It takes the Word to abolish the world,  
No walking with the world - and God.  
And if you don't bear a cross below,  
Those streets of gold you won't trod.

Man can't obtain his own salvation,  
And if deliverance he would have —  
He must surrender his will unto Jesus,  
For his words are a healing salve.

They will bind up the broken-hearted,  
And show them the strait path home;  
They will stop him from wandering,  
He will no more want to roam.

With quietness of words and works,  
Christ came and taught the way —  
To all those who would follow Him —  
Patiently, as He went, day by day.

Only Christ alone can save your soul,  
But you'll have to be born anew,  
And have all your sins washed away,  
Then His holy will you pursue.

Jesus was baptized, set the example,  
Partook of the supper, and washed feet.  
Five times we read of the holy kiss  
To give Brethren whenever we meet.

You may say, "Oh, that's not for us,  
It was for them — way back when."  
If that be right, — then those mansions  
Jesus went to prepare, were for "then."

You must not "wrest the scriptures,"  
Or depend on the wisdom of men;  
Prove all things you hear, by His Word,  
Then try to live by God's plan.

His atoning blood will cover all sins;  
We must choose the RIGHT HIGHWAY.  
Other roads will lead to destruction;  
Obey His Word — and get God's pay.

There'll be eternal life with Jesus  
In that City with Mansions divine,  
We will eat of the Marriage Supper —  
In linen robes, so white and fine.

- Sister Irene Stout

## NEWS ITEMS

### APPRECIATION

I wish to express my appreciation and thanks to all who remembered me on my birthday and sent beautiful cards, letters and notes. It was very kind of you. May the Lord bless each one.

Sister Grace Surbey

### THANKS

We had the blessing of a safe trip to our home here in Florida, planning to stay for the winter. Our special thanks to the Brethren and Sisters who desired to see us with a visit when we were in Pennsylvania. The blessed promise is to the faithful few.

Brother Joseph and Sister Margaret Marks



The right angle from which to approach any problem is the TRY-angle.



There is only one place where success comes before work — the dictionary.



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

JANUARY 15, 1984

NO. 2

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## TWO BECOME ONE

Love is a two-way highway,  
Marriage is a two-way street  
Where harmony should overflow  
Where street and highway meet.

Man and woman become one  
When wedding vows are said;  
May their lives be in accord  
From the day they are wed.  
Differences will surely come, —  
Two minds aren't the same;  
Talking over your two opinions  
Perhaps one opinion you'll claim.

Trials come across your path  
So keep Christ in your heart,  
You'll grow mature in His love  
And never want to part.

Sister Irene Stout

## GETTING EVEN

The international scene is troubled today with many nations trying to get even with each other. The idea behind the foreign policy of most nations is to be able to recompense evil for evil. Many of the activities of nations today are governed by the desire to get even with another nation for some incident that occurred many years ago. Militant Armenians seek to kill Turks because of a Turkish massacre of some Armenians seventy years ago. No matter that even if they succeed in killing an equal number of Turks, they can never bring back their murdered countrymen.

This same desire to seek revenge is also seen in family feuds. Feuds like that between the Hatfields and the McCoys illustrate how this can last for several generations. Many innocent lives were lost or shattered by the blind desire for getting even. Somehow the human mind thinks of one death being balanced by another death. But too often it does not end with one for one but soon another is killed and the process continues.

Unfortunately these feuds are not limited to the world, they are also found within the Church. Lives there may not be ended with guns and knives and worldly weapons, but Spiritual lives are ruined by the weapons of the desire to get even. A lack of Christian love, pride and fear become the weapons that can soon embroil not only individuals, but also families and congregations in wars that are Spiritually as deadly as any that nations fight. It takes only a supposed slur, an ill-chosen word or some other minor incident to stir up a desire to get even. Then as the real or supposed wrong is broadcast among friends and relatives, more people are involved until a whole congregation has chosen sides and peace and unity have been destroyed. A prosperous, growing congregation can easily be hindered if not totally destroyed when

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this spirit gets among the members. There is surely enough faults and sins within each member to give occasion to another who would seek to get even. By the same token, there are enough faults and sins within each one that each should be more concerned about his own failings. These disastrous feuds within the Church are provoked and encouraged by Satan who desires to see the Lord's work hindered by whatever means. Although Satan promotes the trouble, it is continued by the members who fail to live up to their vows to live by the law of pardon.

Not only does getting even find an undeserved place in the family of God but all too often in the natural family. The element of revenge can too often be seen in troubles between husbands and wives. Although they are to be joined as one body, flesh of one flesh and bone of one bone, they may develop stress and division. Words may be spoken unwisely or heard incompletely. Things may be done that shouldn't have been done. Whatever the beginning of the trouble it is blown into something far bigger by a spirit of revenge. That revenge may take many forms. It may be harsh words, physical abuse, pouting or indifference. Whatever form it takes, it is often met with revenge of the same or a different type. But no matter what type, it is revenge and it calls for more revenge in return. What may have been very minor in the beginning soon becomes a major disturbance. When enough of these incidents collect, the marriage itself may be broken up. If marriage partners could remember to not let the sun set on their anger, most troubles would be short lived. Also if they could remember the soft answer that turns away wrath instead of the harsh, the accusing, the angry, the pouting answer, they would soon solve many minor problems before they become serious.

The human heart and mind is very impatient. There is a desire for immediate action to right wrongs. Even Christians forget that God will resolve the wrongs of this world in His own time. His justice will be perfect so there is no need for getting even in this world.

Whether it is ill-will between nations or tribes, or families or Church members or husbands and wives, it could soon be solved if the Golden Rule were better remembered. The world's nations and families will continue to live by the law of "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth" philosophy because they are unregenerate. If Christians, whether as members of their congregation or as husbands and wives, would practice this God given rule, much unwholesome strife would be prevented before it ever erupted. If we would truly seek the other's good instead of our own desire we would not seek revenge.

Getting even is expected among children but as maturing Christians we should no longer be children. Whatever activities we engage in, we should not be getting even.



## RUINED BY SELFISHNESS

So many otherwise good relationships are ruined because of selfishness. It seems that this is the basic cause of many problems, whether it be between God and man, or person-to-person. A good relationship simply cannot be built on selfishness, but that is exactly what some people try to do.

Entering into a relationship with another for self-gratification, thinking the other person is there for your benefit is very selfish indeed. Expecting others to always give in to you is both unreasonable and selfish. Some people consider a friend as a person who can be used when needed and ignored the rest of the time. However, true friendship must be based on a mutual concern for each other.

In our relationship to God, He being sovereign is to be first. Yet, we want to have our own way, not God's way. We want to please ourselves rather than to please God. We want God to give to us, to make our lives richer, full and comfortable, but we don't want to give ourselves totally to Him. Thus by our own selfishness, we ruin what could be a blessed relationship.

In our relationship, person-to-person, the same selfish desires come to the surface. A husband expects his wife to cater to his every whim, no matter how unreasonable, but never considers her needs. A man makes improper demands on a woman, ignoring the responsibility he has before God. A wife nags and criticizes her husband because he fails to please her in every detail.

As you can see in these examples, there is a problem in the relationships. The husband isn't basically bossy, but he's selfish. The man with immoral desires is selfish, thinking only of himself. The nagging, critical wife is selfish, too, as she wants everything her own way. They are much like a child who refuses to share his toys, wanting everything for himself.

Where do you fit in this picture? If your relationship with God isn't right, none of your other relationships will be either. God is to be Lord of your life and that means there's no room for selfishness, or self-centered attitudes of any kind. When your will is yielded to His will, selfishness will leave. You will then desire to please God, and have genuine concern for others.

Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." In other words, "If you love Me, do what pleases Me." He also said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind," and "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Matt. 22:37, 39. Nowhere will you find a verse which says, "Be selfish" or "Do as you please."

Your total desire, total thought and total being are to be united in loving God. This means you will seek to please Him above all others. Next comes your neighbor. Loving your neighbor as yourself is the opposite of being selfish and taking advantage of him, whatever the situation is.

To get a good picture of what your relationship with others should be like, read I Cor. 13. In a good relationship, you will have the love described here. You will be kind, considerate, unselfish, of proper behavior and so on. You will have the best interest of others at heart, rather than putting your own interests first.

If you want a good relationship with God, give yourself totally to Him. If you want a good relationship with family and friends, give yourself unselfishly to them. Don't ruin your relationships by selfishness, but determine in your heart to be what God wants you to be. Then, and only then, can God bless you and make you a blessing to others.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"THOMAS, THE OPPOSITE VIEW"**

Thomas, the disciple of Christ, was the last member of the second group of four men chosen. He has received a lot of "bad press" over the years because we always think of him as the "doubter." "Doubting Thomas"... how often have we heard this expression? Yet, he was really better than we give him credit for. He was not just a doubter... but we know that he had many positive characteristics.

In John 11:14 we find the Lord is by the Jordan River and the pressure was great. Then, Lazarus was reported sick. Jesus tarried longer and the man died. Why the delay? Jesus wanted to teach an important lesson to His followers. He was going to use this occasion for one of His greatest miracles. In Matt. 9:15 we see Thomas saying, "Let's go with Him." Now Bethany was just two miles east of Jerusalem and Jesus had to go through there. This was about like signing his death warrant. Thomas was convinced that Jesus would be killed. He could see only disaster... but he wanted to go with Him anyway. Why was he so willing to die for Him? Because Thomas had a great love for Him... like the Apostle John. I believe Thomas was excited that he might get to be with Jesus even after death. Disloyalty... never... death... yes!

We see Thomas again in John 14. In that scripture of "Let not your heart be troubled..." Thomas said, we know where you are going... just don't go anywhere that we can't come! This was a



statement of a man with a broken heart. He wanted to be with Jesus.

For the third and last look at Thomas, we go to John 20. Jesus died. Thomas said... I knew it! He died and I didn't get to go with Him! This really put him down to a low level. Later when the other disciples had seen the Lord, Thomas said, except I see His nail scarred hands and His pierced side, I won't believe it. Now remember, the other disciples had to be shown also. So, we see Thomas as not just a doubter, but a loving pessimist.

It is not always bad to be cautious and be sure of things. When Jesus finally met up with Thomas, he asked him to thrust his hands into his sides and feel his nail scarred hands that he might believe. Thomas is spontaneous in his response to his demonstration... "My Lord and my God," he exclaimed. This is one of the greatest confessions ever made. It affirms that Jesus is God... to refute the unbeliever or the cultist today. His diety was confirmed.

Cautiousness is a characteristic that should be a part of each of our lives. Investigate God's Word thoroughly and rely on the leading of the Spirit before moving in any decisions that need to be made... no matter how small they are.

It is said that Thomas went as far as India preaching Jesus. He died with a spear rammed through his side... reminiscent of what he once wanted to feel in the side of Jesus. Now he had his own!

Brother Leonard Wertz

## **WISE AS SERPENTS**

Matthew 10:16 "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

At first glance this verse seems to be instructing Christians to act like serpents. To determine if this is true or not we have made a study as to what the Bible has to say about serpents that we would like to share.

We first meet the serpent in Genesis 3:1 where the King James Version says, "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made..." The word "subtil" is the old English spelling of the word "subtle," which has to do with deception. This verse brings several thoughts to our mind. If everything God created was "very good" according to Gen. 1:31, how can the serpent be deceptive? There are also those who teach that before the fall the animals had the power of speech. This is taken from the latter part of Gen. 3:1. We feel this is mere speculation. This probably is proposed to explain why Eve was not frightened or surprised to hear a serpent talk. But the Bible does

not say she was not frightened or surprised. So again we have speculation. The first book of the Bible is, of course, Genesis. In the last book of the Bible, Revelation, in chapter 12 verse 9 we read, "And the great dragon was cast out, that old SERPENT, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

It would seem like Satan used the form of a serpent, rather than an actual serpent speaking. But we still have to ask, "Why?" We do not want to enter into the popular arena of speculation but we offer some thoughts for your consideration. It would seem as if all the speculation centers around the idea of proving that God is not unfair. Is God unfair if he makes a snake crawl on the ground as an example of the fallen nature of man? We must remember that God does not have to answer to any man, but all men must answer to God! For this reason we leave many popular speculations in the hands of God. What happens to an individual who has never heard of the Lord Jesus Christ at death? We prefer to leave this question in the hands of God, although we do hold a personal OPINION on this subject. We ask one last question in this area, and this is a question, not a dogmatic opinion. Is it possible that God CREATED animals that are meat eaters? The popular opinion is that animals did not use one another for food until after the fall. But it would seem that the serpent was "subtil" before the fall. Snakes often get their prey by lying very still until the last minute, then striking. This would seem to fit into the category of being deceptive. We realize this raises questions concerning the perfect earth at the end of the age. But we do not feel that God would be unfair in creating meat eating animals. This would be no more unfair than God slaying the first animal to clothe Adam and Eve, which instituted the use of animals as a blood sacrifice until the perfect sacrifice was made.

This leads us into our next thought. In John 3:14 we read, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:" This, of course, refers to Jesus Christ. The account this verse is referring to is found in Numbers 21. The people of Israel spoke against God and He sent fiery serpents among them. When the people repented God instructed Moses to make a fiery serpent and place it on a pole for the people to look upon, and live. Why God chose this method is a mystery to us. But it proves two things to us. Number one, that God is Lord of all creation. Secondly, that God's ways are not our ways, and we have no right to judge His actions. In II Kings 18:4 we find that this brasen serpent became an idol and had to be destroyed. We feel this is like the cross of Jesus Christ. It is not the cross that is to

be worshipped, nor even the act of redemption that took place there. But it is the shed blood that cleanses us from all sin that is to be remembered, and the LIVING Christ that is to be worshipped.

There are those who claim to love God but refuse to obey His written word. They confuse the commandments of God with those of men. A similar group of individuals existed when Christ walked the earth. They were known as Pharisees. To them Christ said, in Matt. 23:33, "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of Hell?"

In conclusion, we do not believe Christ is instructing us to be LIKE serpents in the opening verse. Rather his instructions are the same as he gave in Luke 16:8, "And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light." We must have a healthy respect for the wisdom of this world. We must not consider those who fall for the lie of evolution a bunch of "dumbheads." Rather we should realize many of them are very intelligent men. Our defense of Creation should be just as scholarly. On the other hand, it is not intelligence, but child-like faith, by which we learn the great truths of scripture.

Let us seek to be "wise as serpents and harmless as doves," as we go forth seeking to do the will of God. If you are serving that old serpent, the Devil, your end will be eternal punishment. Repent, be baptized, and serve Him, Jesus Christ, who overcame the serpent and you will receive eternal life.

Brother James M. Hite  
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## **OVERCOMING TEMPTATION**

Some people may ask, "Is it true that when a person becomes a Christian all his struggles are over?" or, "Is a Christian promised immunity from tests and trials?" The Word of God pictures the Christian life as a warfare, a life long battle with temptation. Yet it is a battle over which our Lord Jesus Christ has already won the victory.

It is useless to try to find a place in this world where the opportunities to sin are not present. Satan misses no one. The Bible tells us the world is full of sin and is doomed to destruction because of it. Read I John 2:15-17. This is why Jesus prayed for His disciples. "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil," John 17:15. Jesus realized that we couldn't escape with an evil world, but He implied that by God's power we could be kept from yielding



to temptation. So the Master still urges, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matt. 26:41.

Temptation is a universal experience, while we have adequate provision from God through Christ to resist and to overcome, still no one can escape being tempted.

The Word of God does not promise immunity from temptation. Not even for the best Christians. The Bible says, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations: knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him," James 1:2-3; 12. Jesus lived a holy and perfect life while here on earth, yet He was not beyond temptation. "Being forty days tempted of the devil, and in those days he did eat nothing: And when they were ended, he afterward hungered. And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this that it be made bread. And Jesus answered him saying. It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me: and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence. For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season." Luke 4:2-13.

"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Heb. 4:15. These and other scriptures tell us that Jesus was tested and tried, and because He was He understands our needs in times of temptation, and is ready to help us, if we only ask Him.

Temptation itself is not sin. Jesus was without sin, yet He was tempted throughout His life. If we can overcome our frustrations and temptations, they can be stepping stones to spiritual growth.

The Apostle Peter says you can be full of joy even though you have to suffer many trials for a little while. These trials will test our

faith as gold is tested with fire. Our faith is more precious than gold, for gold can be destroyed. If you stand firm before every trial Jesus Christ will give you praise and honor and glory when He comes.

We live on a battleground in the world. The contest between good and evil, between Heaven and hell is constantly raging. Satan controls the bad and attacks the good. He is a powerful enemy and no one is excluded from his plan. Moses, Joseph, David, Job, Paul and Peter were tested. Yet the victory is won, because God is our strength. Paul says, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." Eph. 6:10. We are to put on the whole armour of God, that we will be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." I Cor. 10:13. A life yielded to Christ makes the divine power available. There is no victory apart from Him. So let the Lord give you His power to overcome the temptations and tests in your life.

Sister Myrtle Broadwater  
RD 10, Box 459  
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A Bible that's falling apart often belongs to someone who isn't.



Faith is strengthened by the winds of opposition.



It is not the talented, but the consecrated who serve the Lord best.

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

January 15, 1924

LINE UPON LINE

B. E. Kesler

There are persons who say that they get tired of going to church and hearing the same ideas expressed so often. And no doubt there are ministers who do not always use the best judgment in their preaching. Still, there are probably not so many unprofitable sermons preached as some people think. So much depends on the attitude of the man in the pew. If he goes to the house of the Lord with his mind full of the Lord's business, it will be a much poorer sermon than the average if he does not get a blessing from it. But if he goes with his mind full of his own worth, it will be a sermon much above the average which can move him, shake off his thoughts of self and get him into the spirit of worship.

Quite often the exhortations we get most tired of hearing are the very ones we need to hear — and heed. There is not such a large number of really vital truths. And these must be repeated time after time; men must be urged to accept them and live them. So far as possible, they must be compelled to accept the invitation to the marriage supper. Even those who have accepted are not always ready — they may lack the wedding garment. And how many are there who have taken upon themselves the name of Christ, who have put on all that should be put on with that name, and have put off all that should be put off? Is anyone ready to say he is without sin, that he no longer needs the line upon line and the precept upon precept?

To grow to the full stature of manhood in Christ Jesus our Lord is not a matter of a short time or a few efforts. To build a solid character is the work of years. There is no one without a weakness, and there are few, if any, weaknesses conquered for all time with the first effort. To resolve is one thing, to put the resolution into effect is another and much more difficult thing. Sometimes it takes days and weeks and months and years of earnest, prayerful effort before we conquer our weakness, our besetting sin. How many times during the struggle must we repeat to ourselves the line upon line and the precept upon precept.

All scripture is profitable. We do not get the profit from it by just hurriedly reading it. We must think, meditate upon it day and night. David said that when he was musing the fire burned. And if we, when we go to church, would think more, try harder to get the full meaning of the passage read for a lesson, there would be far



less occasion to find fault with the minister.

But the minister is under even greater obligation to study than is the laymember. Paul wrote Timothy that he should study so as to show himself a workman who need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. Not all do this, and insofar as they fail in this they fail to become the men they should. A more thoughtful man in the pulpit will mean more thoughtful men and women in the pews. The pulpit and the pew react upon each other. The great thing for both is to have the mind and heart filled with the things that belong to the time and place. Our business, our pleasures, our ambitions have no place in God's house. It is to be a house of prayer, and the one who goes to it in a prayerful spirit will not be inclined to find much fault with the minister.

Yet we must take heed what we hear. We must have so learned our line upon line that we can at once detect anything not in harmony with God's Book. We are not to receive what is not in harmony with the Book. Jesus said that the words which he spoke would judge us in the last day. So we must take heed what we hear. The words of Jesus are spirit and life: words different from his, not in harmony with them, are without spirit and life.

Let us take heed that we do not form the habit of finding fault with the other man just because he differs from us. Let us study and learn whether he is in harmony with God and whether we are in harmony with God. If two men are not in harmony with each other one of them, and possibly both of them, must be out of harmony with God. If we know His will and do His will, we must also know what is not His will and we shall have no desire to do any will but His. May he help us in our learning and in our doing.

## **OUR FAITHFUL FOREPARENTS, A BLESSED EXAMPLE**

The memory of our faithful foreparents can be a blessing to us if we have received it. Many have followed the way of truth and righteousness as taught and exemplified by Christ, our Saviour. Among the rising generation, we often have seen where the good example of parents is not acceptable to them. The trend has been in many cases a falling away from the fundamental principles of the saving Gospel of Christ, not only in wearing apparel but also in many other ways.

We are living in a time when many professing Christians are an example of self concern. Christ, when here on earth, did not forget those who were ill and afflicted in this life. He had time for them and was a blessing and consolation to them. Through His healing

power we can be healed from the infirmities of sin. He has given us a blessed example and told us what is required of us to be numbered among the faithful. We are living in a time when the love of many has waxed cold.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that we through Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Through Christ's willingness we have the plan of salvation and all may come to the knowledge of the truth. Let us not lose sight of the fact that Christ's coming was for all, but lose the desire and example of self concern. I remember many years ago when many professing Christians were much concerned about each other especially those who were ill.

We are living in a time when professing Christendom needs to turn to the saving Gospel of Christ and accept the way of truth and righteousness. The Apostle Paul says if we have not charity, we have nothing. Have we made Christ our pattern? Do we desire His way in our lives and want to mold and make them after His will?

Often, parents who have done much for their children when they become old in this life are refused help in time of need. When we have been blessed with Christian parents we can never repay the debt of gratitude we owe toward them. Obedience is better than sacrifice. A faithful Christian life is a blessed example to those living in darkness. Can we be a blessed example and have no time for those who are sick and afflicted?

The modern inventions of the past few decades which have made life easier and more comfortable for mankind are not appreciated. Wickedness is increasing and the love of many have waxed cold. We know our Heavenly Father was not pleased with mankind in the days of Noah. We know he is not pleased with those who do not obey the commands of the saving Gospel of Christ, today. When the new life in Christ is accepted, we have a concern for others. We need the way of truth and righteousness to receive a blessing and be a blessed example to others.

"Strait is the gate and narrow is the way that leads to life everlasting and few there be that find it." Ours is a privilege and duty to be among the faithful and be a blessed example to others.

Brother J. F. Marks  
Rt. 9 Box 860  
Plant City, Florida 33566



Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.

## HIS WORD AS A BURNING FIRE

"Then I said, I will not make mention of Him, nor speak any more in His name. But His word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forebearing, and I could not stay." Jer. 20:9.

There was a time in the prophet Jeremiah's life that he got tired of the burden he had to bear as God's man. He tired of being made fun of and of being persecuted. He decided he would no longer speak of God: no longer remind the people to repent and seek the face of God. But God was so deep in the heart of this man, so ingrained, that he could not remain silent. The prophet Amos felt this, and said, "The lion hath roared, who will not fear? The Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy?" Amos 3:8.

Just as Elihu could not be silent at the injustice of Job's friends, so should the saint of God be vocal in defending Him against the Devil's forces. In Job 32:19-20 he said: "Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent; it is ready to burst like new bottles. I will speak, that I may be refreshed: I will open my lips and answer." The answer of Peter and John to the Jewish Council when they were told to stop preaching in Acts chapter four typifies the zeal of the saint of God in the face of adversity. "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." And as Paul said in I Corinthians 9: "Necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the Gospel!" Preaching the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is not just for the preachers; it is for all Christians to know and as it says in I Peter, "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."

The Christian's duty should be present in mind and in heart to spread and proclaim the precious gospel of Christ. Without this, the world will never know.

In Christian love,  
Brother L. H. Miller  
RD #2, Box 572  
Newmanstown, PA 17073



Men may be able to polish men, but only God can cleanse them.



## OBITUARY

### PEARL TROUTWINE

Sister Pearl (Foreman) Troutwine, daughter of John and Elizabeth Foreman was born December 7, 1894 near Union City, Ohio and departed this life December 15, 1983 at the Rest Haven Nursing Home, Greenville, Ohio at the age of 89 years and 8 days.

On October 3, 1914 she was united in marriage to Virgil Troutwine. She shared the ups and downs of life with her husband for fifty-nine years before his passing in 1973.

To this union was born one daughter, Alice M. Hubler of Gulfport, Mississippi and one son, Doyle E. of Greenville, Ohio. In addition to the children she leaves to mourn her departure; five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild; also one sister, Clara Niswonger, of Shirly, Indiana and a host of other relatives and friends. One grandchild, four sisters and one brother preceded her in death.

She was baptized into the Church of the Brethren in her younger years, then in 1926 she transferred her membership to the Dunkard Brethren Church. To this faith she remained faithful until the Lord called her home.

She spent the majority of her life in Darke County, Ohio. She was loved and respected by all who knew her. The life she lived was consistent with what she professed; a plain and humble life.

The funeral services were conducted by Brethren Dean St. John, Paul Stump and William Heisey at the Miller Funeral Home, Greenville, Ohio. Burial in the Teegarden Cemetery, north of Greenville.

## NEWS ITEMS

### GET WELL CARD SHOWER

The family of Sis. Hilda Strayer invites all to send her a get well card. Her address is: Hilda Strayer, c/o Homer Mellott, P.O. Box 81, Oakland, Maryland 21550.

### THANK YOU

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

We would like to say thank you for remembering us at the Throne of Grace, for cards, flowers, gifts or any other deed of kindness shown to us since our automobile accident. May the Lord bless each one.

Your Brother and Sister in the Lord,  
George and Lucille Throne

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY, 1984 OF THE EARTH

Memory Verse: Ex. 19:5

Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

Wed. 1 - Ex. 19:1-25

Thur. 2 - Ex. 20:1-26

Fri. 3 - Ex. 33:1-23

Sat. 4 - Ex. 34:1-17

Memory Verse: Num. 14:21

But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord.

Sun. 5 - Ex. 34:18-35

Mon. 6 - Num. 14:1-24

Tues. 7 - Num. 14:24-45

Wed. 8 - Num. 16:1-22

Thur. 9 - Num. 16:23-50

Fri. 10 - Deut. 4:1-24

Sat. 11 - Deut. 4:25-49

Memory Verse: Deut. 7:6

For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.

Sun. 12 - Deut. 7:1-26

Mon. 13 - Deut. 10:1-22

Tues. 14 - Deut. 11:1-17

Wed. 15 - Deut. 11:18-32

Thur. 16 - Deut. 26:1-19

Fri. 17 - Deut. 28:1-23

Sat. 18 - Deut. 28:24-48

Memory Verse: Deut. 10:14

Behold, The heaven and the heaven of heavens is the Lord's thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is.

Sun. 19 - Deut. 28:49-68

Mon. 20 - Deut. 30:1-20

Tues. 21 - Deut. 32:1-26

Wed. 22 - Deut. 32:27-52

Thur. 23 - Deut. 33:1-29

Fri. 24 - Jos. 2:1-24

Sat. 25 - Jos. 3:1-17

Memory Verse: Deut. 11:21

That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.

Sun. 26 - Jos. 4:1-24

Mon. 27 - Jos. 23:1-16

Tues. 28 - I Sam. 2:1-21

Wed. 29 - I Sam. 2:22-36

Memory Verses: Deut. 32:13

He made him ride upon the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock;

Jos. 3:11

Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan.

Lester Fisher  
4664 N. State Rte. 48  
Covington, OH 45313

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

FEBRUARY 1, 1984

NO. 3

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## YOUR LIGHT

Christian, do not hide your light,  
Be known by words and deeds,  
Stand up! Stand out! For Jesus,  
You may fill some sinner's needs.

So let your light shine bright,  
It will light the path for men,  
Perhaps even a wanderer  
Would come to the fold again.

Love is a bright glowing light  
That can reach to every nation,  
But if your light is not so bright -  
Let it shine at your own station.

If you hide your light somewhere  
And don't show someone the way,  
They may stumble in the darkness  
And miss that eternal day.

The true shining light is Jesus,  
His light reflects from our heart;  
Walk as children in that light -  
And never from it depart.

- Sister Irene Stout



## PEACEMAKERS

On the Western frontier a century ago, there was little law and order. When the desire for taming the wild elements became strong, various lawmen were sent there to secure peace and quiet. Many of these frontier lawmen carried and used a pistol called "The Peacemaker."

Today we live in a time of wars and rumors of wars. There is a definite lack of peace. There have been many plans and schemes devised to bring peace to this world. This is the original idea behind the establishment of the United Nations. There have been various plans for disarmament. Treaties have been written and signed designed to foster peace, but they have been broken about as fast as they have been written. One ironic way of seeking peace has been an increase in military armaments. In fact one of the new missiles being developed is called "The Peacemaker."

The one thread that runs through all of these schemes is they rely on the wisdom and understanding of men and leave God completely out of it. Men see only symptoms of peacelessness. They see the lack of peace among men as they fight and war among themselves. They fail to see the cause of that peaceless condition. They forget that as long as men do not have peace with God, they can not have peace within themselves or peace with others. As long as men ignore God they can have no hope of establishing a lasting peace whether through military superiority or through disarmament. Political and social solutions cannot solve man's basic problem of alienation from God.

Men may think of guns and missiles as peacemakers. They may award prizes to men as peacemakers. But the greatest peacemaker is Jesus Christ. For a man to have peace with God the

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question of man's sin must be settled. Men cannot have peace with God as long as sin separates him from God. Separation is a lack of peace. God did not originally nor does He now desire to have this separation between Himself and men. Because of His love He has made a way through His Son to re-establish His peace with men. When Jesus, the perfect, became sin for mankind the one way to peace with God was made. It remains only for men to accept what has been done by Jesus for that peace to be established. This is an individual choice even though it is available to all men.

Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." As the Child of God, He fulfilled that task of making peace. We are instructed to be more like Him. As Christians we are to be imitators of Him. To be a Christian we must first become a child of God by the adoptive process contained in the plan of salvation. Then as imitators of Him we should be sharing the Gospel of peace with those about us.

Our peacemaking activities are not limited to evangelistic or missionary endeavors. We also must practice peace with our fellowmen. Since God through His only begotten child has practiced peace toward all of mankind, we as a child of His must also practice peaceful living. Jesus' life was devoted to doing good for others so must ours. We are told to live peaceably with all men. There may come many frustrations and provocations but we are to handle them as peacemakers not as those seeking revenge.

Revenge is to be left to God. He will right all wrongs in His own chosen time. Peacemakers are to choose the way of peace which is given us by God rather than the way designed and appreciated by the understanding of men.

Peace is not forwarded by demonstration or involvement in the political arena. These ways are the ways that appeal to the wisdom of men but they are foreign to the wisdom of God. Peace is not a matter of political decision nor is it a matter of public opinion influenced by the numbers of marches or demonstrators. Peace is an individual Spiritual decision.

True peace can never be achieved on this earth until all men become willing to make their peace with God. This decision must be made by each individual. Have you made peace with God so you can have the blessing of being a child of His?



Friendship with the evil is like the shadow in the morning, decreasing every hour; but friendship with the good is like the evening shadows, increasing till the sun of life sets. - Herder

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## EDITORIAL POLICY

That it be the policy of the Bible Monitor to exclude controversial material and material opposing, questioning or reflecting on decisions or positions of the Church as determined by the General Conference or derogatory thereto. Also all other material not of proper standard or spiritual value for a church paper.

That supervision over the matter to be published in the Bible Monitor be exercised by the Publication Board.

## PRINTED MATERIAL

The following Dunkard Brethren publications are available to anyone, from the Boards listed:

### GENERAL MISSION BOARD

The following tracts are free:

Why Triune Baptism  
Plain Dressing  
Which is the Right Church?  
The Service of Feet Washing as a Religious Rite  
What Shall I do with the Commandments of Jesus?  
Daily Reminder  
The Lord's Supper  
The Doctrine of the Prayer Veil  
The Brethren's Card  
Do You Want Salvation?  
Bible Teachings  
The Sabbath - Its Origin and Observance

### PUBLICATION BOARD

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Minutes of General Conference in One Volume  
\$4.25 ea. plus \$ .35 postage each.

## SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

We are submitting several suggestions as a help to contributors in preparing material for the Bible Monitor. These suggestions will also make the work easier for both the editor and the printer.

1. Become familiar with the Editorial Policy and do not use subjects or statements which conflict with this plan of the Bible Monitor.

2. Place your name and address at the close of the article. We deem it more appropriate to sign as Brother or Sister.

3. Do not make sentences too long. A number of short sentences are better than a long involved sentence which is difficult to punctuate, and in which the real meaning of the writer's thought may be lost.

4. It will be appreciated if you gather a particular thought or thoughts and their proving Scripture quotations, into paragraphs and set these apart from the rest of the article, by setting in the first line of each paragraph about the space of three letters.

5. Do not crowd your words or punctuation marks close together. Do not use slang or abbreviated words as - "thot" for thought, "2" for two, "&" for and, etc.

6. Write or typewrite on one side of the paper only. Double spacing of lines is much preferred. Do not make the lines the full width of the sheet, leave at least one inch margin on each side of the sheet.

7. Use direct quotations for the Scripture references, please copy the wording and the punctuation just as it appears in the King James Version of the Bible. Given thus: book, chapter and verse, "Jesus wept." John 11:35.

8. Frequent mistakes we find: beleive for believe; recieve for receive; judgement for judgment; ore for or; & for and.

9. In submitting selected material, give the name of the author and the publication in which it appeared, if known, and add "selected by" and your name.

10. To be certain that an item is in a certain issue, your Editor should have this item at least 30 days prior to the date of the issue.

11. The Publication Board has decided that News Items should contain material of general interest to the Brotherhood. Therefore items of only local interest should not be included in News Items, such as Local Sunday School officers, District meeting delegates, minor local church property improvements and items "In Memoriam."

12. Read these and then write.

## FIXED COMMUNION DATES

Third Sat. Feb. - Winterhaven, Ca  
 Third Sat. March - Quinter, Kansas  
 First Sat. April - Dallas Center, Iowa  
 Fourth Sat. April - Pleasant Home, Ca.  
 Last Sat. April - Grandview, Missouri  
 Last Sun. April - Bethel, Pa.  
 First Sun. May - Waynesboro, Pa.  
 Third Sat. May - Dayton, Virginia  
 Third Sat. May - West Fulton, Ohio  
 Third Sun. May - Lititz, Pa.  
 Fourth Sun. May - Shrewsbury, Pa.  
 Sat. before First Sun. Aug. - Broad-  
 water Chapel, Maryland  
 Sat. before Fourth Sun. Aug. - Shallow  
 Falls, Maryland  
 Labor Day Weekend - South Fulton, Ill.

First Sun. Oct. - Walnut Grove, Md.  
 Second Sun. Oct. - Waynesboro, Pa.  
 Third Sat. Oct. - Dayton, Virginia  
 Third Sun. Oct. - Lititz, Pa.  
 Fourth Sat. Oct. - Englewood, Ohio  
 Last Sun. Oct. - Bethel, Pa.  
 First Sat. Nov. - Newberg, Oregon  
 First Sun. Nov. - Shrewsbury, Pa.  
 Second Sat. Nov. - Pleasant Home, Ca.

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## GOSSIP, BOTH VERBAL AND BY MAIL

A. Elders, other officials and all others are admonished that being busybodies in other men's matters, is contrary to the Scripture and it should not be indulged in, as it causes complaint and interference with the spiritual life and work of those concerned. This applies especially where there may be trouble in the church, both to local members and those elsewhere, talking and writing about such matters.

B. When advice is sought of an official in any church matter he (the official) should be exceedingly careful in giving advice, so as not to interfere in any way with proper care of difficulties, by officials whose business they are. Elders and all others should, in seeking advice, begin at home when at all possible and be careful to proceed regularly and in brotherly love.

C. In correspondence, care should be exercised not to make statements that may be construed as derogatory to any member. If such things are done, full responsibility must be understood as being assumed by the writer.

D. Caucusing, that is, the taking over and planning by groups, what to do or how to move in any particular matter is unprofitable, causative of distress and trouble and should not be indulged in by officials or anyone else.

E. Talking or circulating of what was done in council, either to members who were not present or to outsiders, is irregular and unChristian and should not be indulged in.

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## LOCATION OF CHURCH HOUSES

### BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

Frystown House, located in Frystown, in northwestern Berks Co., one mile south of Route 78 and one mile west of Route 501.

Milbach House, located halfway between Kleinfeltersville and Newmans-town, in Lebanon Co. or halfway between Schaffertown and Womeisdorf, Pennsylvania.

### BROADWATER CHAPEL, MD.

From Cumberland, Maryland, travel west on National Freeway #48, 20 miles to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn left or south under freeway three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road 3.8 miles, left on Westernport Road 3.8 miles, right on Savage Road 3.9 miles to church on left.

From Morgantown, W. Va. area, travel east on National Freeway #48 to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn right three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road and follow above directions.

Traveling east or west on U.S. Route #50 take U.S. Rt. #220 north, take Maryland Rt. #135 at McCoolle (just north of Keyser, W. Va.) seven miles to Bloomington, Maryland. Turn right on Savage River Road, 12½ miles to church on right.

### CLEARVILLE, PA.

Wards Church, located 14 miles southwest of Everett, Pa., all improved roads. From Everett take Rt. 26 to Clearville, Pa. At Clearville straight ahead South, leaving Rt. 26, which turns right, one and one-half miles, then turn right at fork. Ward's Church is five miles on the left.

### DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

Dallas Center is located on Rt. 44, twenty-four miles northwest of Des Moines. Turn north off Rt. 44 on to County Rd. R16 at west edge of city. The church is ¾ mile north on the west side of the road.

### DAYTON, VIRGINIA

Turn west from Interstate 81 at Harrisonburg Exit #63. Go to second stop light, Rt. 42, turn left to Dayton, (3 miles) right on Rt. 257, two blocks.

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Twelve miles north of Dayton, Rt. 440 and Rt. 48 cross at the center of Englewood. Church house is located on the right of Rt. 48, one block north of this junction.

### GOSHEN, INDIANA

Located on Green Road, one block north of County No. 130. Take U.S. 33 or Indiana #15 to Goshen, turn west at Police booth. Four blocks beyond bridge, turn right on North Indiana Ave., one block turn left on W. Clinton St. One mile to Green Rd., right one block and church is located on east side of road.

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Church is located south of Grandview. Take the west access road of 71 Highway 1½ miles south to 139th St., turn west, go to the second street and turn south one block.

### LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Coming from the South on Route 501, turn right at the fourth stoplight in Lititz, when coming from the North turn left at the first stoplight, which is East Lincoln St. Go to first crossroad, turn right, go to second crossroad, turn right to brick church on the right.

### MECHANICSBURG, PA.

#### CUMBERLAND CO.

Located between Routes 15 and 11. The town is bisected by Rt. 114 into

East and West, and by Rt. 641 into North and South. The church is located on West Keller St., or corner of Keller and Washington St., four blocks west of Market St. or Route 114. Leaving the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Carlisle interchange, Rt. 11 will lead east to Rt. 114. Leaving the Turnpike at Gettysburg interchange, Rt. 16 will lead west to Rt. 114.

#### McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Cloverleaf church is located one mile north of U.S. Highway #50, four miles west of McClave junction, or two miles east of Hasty, Colo., on U.S. #50 and then north one mile.

#### MOUNTAINDALE, MD.

Seven miles north of Frederick, in the little town of Mountandale, Md., from east go through town to west on road from Lewistown to Yellow Springs, two miles from Lewistown and three miles from Yellow Springs. If traveling U.S. 15, this road crosses #15, half mile west of Lewistown and six miles south of Thurmont.

#### PLEASANT HOME, CA.

The Pleasant Home Church is located at 3960 Sharon Ave., Modesto, California. The Church's telephone number is 209-524-8634.

Directions: From the South on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit to the right and stay on Briggsmore Avenue to Claus Road (approximately six miles), turn left on Claus, one fourth mile to Sharon Avenue, left on Sharon Avenue. Church is on the left. Coming from the North on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit, turn left and stay on Briggsmore and follow above directions.

#### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

Located in Williams County, four miles west of West Unity, forty rods north of Rt. 20 alternate. Two miles east of junction of Ohio Route 15 and U.S. Route 20 alternate.

#### PLEVNA, INDIANA

Route 18 passes east and west through Converse. In Converse, turn south at stoplight and go three miles. Turn right on blacktop road and go five miles west to Plevna. Or go west of Converse on Rt. 18 for five miles, turn left and go three miles south. The Church is on west side of street near the square of Plevna.

#### NEWBERG, OREGON

Highway 99W enters Newberg in east-west direction. Those entering from the east on First St., go to third stoplight, turn right on North Main. Go four blocks to the church at corner of N. Main and Franklin Sts. Entering from the west, turn left at first stop light onto N. Main and go four blocks to the corner of Main and Franklin Sts.

#### ORION, OHIO

Located in northeastern Ohio, on Orion Road, one fourth mile west of State Rt. 8 at a point six miles north of Canton or one and one-half miles north of North Canton and 17 miles south of Akron.

#### QUINTER, KANSAS

Located at the corner of Eighth Street and Main Street.

#### S. FULTON, ILLINOIS

Astoria, Ill., is located on Rt. 24, coming from east or west, turn south at the bank corner marked by the big clock. Two miles south and on the right at top of hill.

#### WAYNESBORO, PA.

Church is located in west side of town, on corner of Ridge and Third Streets. Turn south of Route 16 on Fairview Ave., go two blocks and turn left on Third Street, church house is one block.

#### SHREWSBURY, PA.

Fourteen miles south of York on Rt. 111, at the north end of the town of Shrewsbury.

#### SHALLOW FALLS, MD.

Traveling U.S. Rt. 50, turn north at Red house, half way between Clarksburg and Winchester, follow Rt. 219 to Oakland, there turn left on county road 20. The church is on Rt. 20, about nine miles north of Oakland. Traveling U.S. Rt. 40, turn south onto Rt. 219, at Keyser Ridge, follow Rt. 219 about four miles past Deep Great Lake, turn right on county road 20 at a store. The church is one and one-half miles Swallow Falls Park.

#### WALNUT GROVE, MD.

About midway between Frederick, Md. and Hanover, Pa. One-fourth mile east of Rt. 194, at an intersection three miles north of Taneytown, Md.

#### W. FULTON, OHIO

Near Wauseon, Ohio, located on U.S. Rt. 20 alternate, three and one-

half miles west of junction of Ohio  
Rt. 108 and U.S. Rt. 20 alternate.

WINTERHAVEN, CA.

Located in Cherry Valley. Go north

of Beaumont on Beaumont Ave., go  
right on Brookside (marked with a  
Highland Springs sign) to Jonathan,  
left to Lincoln and right to the church.

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## MISSIONS

CLEARVILLE, PA. - In South Central Pennsylvania, about half-way between Everett on Rt. 30 and Piney Grove on Rt. 40. About six miles south of Clearville, Pa., along hard road a little east of Rt. 26. Services second, fourth and fifth Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

### TORREON NAVAJO MISSION

Located southwest of Cuba, New Mexico, 23 miles. Turn on State Highway 197 in Cuba. Follow Rt. 197 for 19 miles when you will take a paved road to the left. A mission sign

marks this junction. Proceed 3 miles to the mission. Present personnel includes David and Mildred Skiles; Paul and Sarah Skiles; Mary Alice Skiles; Scott Mayle and Renita Trujillo. Visitors would be wise to notify the Mission in advance. Address: R. 2 Box 8, Cuba, New Mexico 87013; Telephone - 505-731-2293, unit 3134. Please contact for further information.

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## NOTICE CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Newlywed couples may receive a year's subscription free if a request is forwarded to the editor with their name and full address.

To those who anticipate moving — please report a change of address promptly to the editor to prevent the papers being miscarried.

It will also be appreciated if those who send in subscriptions will give the complete addresses and indicate whether they are new or renewal subscriptions.

It will be of help to the editor if subscriptions are always sent in the same name.

Is your subscription renewed?

— Editor

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## SIXTY YEARS AGO

February 1, 1924

### CHURCH DISCIPLINE

(I Cor. 5)

P. L. Fike

1. The church at Corinth was guilty of tolerating within her communion one guilty of having his father's wife and the church was glorying in having this man among them. Perhaps he was an influential man among some people, or was rich and gave liberally for church benevolences or possibly there was some relatives of his whom they were afraid of losing if they dealt with him. Well some say, "We would not tolerate such in the church now." Are the churches entirely free today of having in fellowship those living in adultery? But listen, such are classed with covetous, idolaters, drunkards, extortioners and revilers, and Paul says deliver such to satan.

There is an utter lack of discipline in our churches today. Men and women may conduct their business in such a way that they become a by-word among the people. Members may speak reproachfully of the rulings of the church, and ministers may teach that the Gospel teaches — according to the parable of the tares, that we have no authority to disfellowship. One of our leaders, a teacher in our schools said in the Peace Valley Church, "I even question the position the brethren take in regard to Matt. 18." And now we hear it said, "We cannot do anything, we can't get rid of such."

2. Authority for church discipline is not questioned by loyal members, but by those teachers who wrest the scriptures and those who are "presumptuous; self-willed and despise government," or corrective discipline. This authority is challenged by some by perverting Matt. 13:30. But remember the Master says the world is the field, not the church. By questioning this authority, we question Paul's authority. (see I Cor. 14:37.)

3. The necessity for church discipline; first, is to save the individual and destroy the flesh and save the spirit. Second, to keep the church pure. (see v. 6) The Jews were to cast out the leaven, and doing so, meant death. One rotten apple in a barrel causes many more to decay.

Achan gives an illustration of leaving sin go unnoticed. The death of the Paschal lamb put the obligation upon Israel to put away the old leaven so they might be a new lump; so Christ's death obligates us to put away sin and live a new life. (7-8 verses) It is this disregard that has caused barrenness in the church today.

4. The ground upon which church discipline is to be administered. (v. 9-11, II Thess. 3:6)

1st. Licentiousness or loose in morals.

2nd. Covetousness.

3rd. Extortion.

4th. Idolatry. That which is nearest us, our activities tells what is our idol. With some it is money, with some pleasure (worldly) lust, beauty, dress, fame.

5th. Revilers. This applies to abusive speech about individuals or the church, speaking that which is not true.

5. Difficulty of church discipline. Relationship, good payers into treasury. But perhaps the greatest is, as we hear the cry at other places, "They do so and so over there, the elder does not care, and so forth."

6. The effects of church discipline, in the case mentioned in I Cor. 5. It meant repentance and restoration. (II Cor. 2.) If you put a sheep out of a flock the sheep will bleat to get back, but turn a pig out of a flock and it will try to root out the foundation of the fence between.

While rigid discipline is taught by Paul, great care should be taken that it is done in love for the salvation of the individual, and the purity of the church kept in view.



God will not suffer man to have a knowledge of things to come; for if he prescience of his prosperity, he would be careless; and if understanding of his adversity, he would be despairing and senseless. - Augustine



Frugality may be termed the daughter of prudence, the sister of temperance, and the parent of liberty. He that is extravagant will quickly become poor, and poverty will enforce dependence and invite corruption. - Johnson



Frugality is good if liberality be joined with it. The first is leaving off superfluous expenses; the last is bestowing them for the benefit of those who need. The first, without the last, begets covetousness; the last without the first begets prodigality. - Penn

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

FEBRUARY 15, 1984

NO. 4

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WHAT SHALL I RENDER TO MY GOD

What shall I render to my God  
For all his kindness shown?  
My feet shall visit thine abode,  
My songs address thy throne.

Among the saints that fill thine house  
My offerings shall be paid;  
There shall my zeal perform the vows  
My soul in anguish made.

How happy all thy servants are!  
How great thy grace to me!  
My life which thou hast made thy care,  
Lord, I devote to thee.

Now I am thine, forever thine,  
Nor shall my purpose move;  
Thy hand has loosed my bonds of pain,  
And bound me with thy love.

Here in thy courts I leave my vow,  
And thy rich grace record;  
Witness, ye saints who hear me now,  
If I forsake the Lord.

- Isaac Watts

## PROMISES

Many promises are made but not all are kept. Well-intentioned people promise what they plan to carry out but are prevented from it by various circumstances. Sickness, accident and weather conditions may intervene so the promised tasks can not be done. There are other promises made which are not intended to be accomplished. The politician promises often contradictory things to different groups knowing he can never bring to pass what has been so glowingly promoted.

Knowing the uncertainty of our ability to carry out simple plans and promises it is well for us to remember our human frailty. Remembering our lives are but as a puff of steam or a so-soon-wilted flower, we should say we will do as we plan if the Lord will. When we do not have the promise of tomorrow it is presumptuous for us to promise what we will do or give to another. We are not the masters of our lives let alone of others.

So remembering our frailty we can make our promises knowing we may fail but determined to do what we can. This frailty can give us occasion to pause and thank God for the strength and ability we do have. If we are able to keep our promise we should be thankful to God for that.

We can be thankful that He is able to keep His promises made in His Word. We do not need to worry about circumstances interfering to keep Him from fulfilling His promises. He has given us many promises ranging from physical and material blessings to an eternal Home in Heaven. Some of His promises are conditioned upon our acceptance and conduct.

Promises are an integral part of the wedding ceremony. Promises are made by the bride and groom that are to be kept throughout a lifetime. The husband owes certain benefits to the

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wife, which are parallel with the benefits Christ has secured for His Bride, the Church. The wife, in turn, has promised to reverence and treat her husband in a way consistent with the Church's duty to Her Lord. Too often the promises made on the wedding day are taken too lightly for they have become largely ceremonial. When the honeymoon is over and married life becomes an earnest endeavor, the promises must be carried out. After a number of years these promises evidently mean very little as the partners speak disparagingly of their spouses. They find faults where before the promises were made they found good things. Human nature and frailty cause each to seek his own will and forget the promises to love and honor the other.

The couple's wedding vows are very important and sacred. They are for life. But even more important and sacred are the promises each Christian makes at the time of his conversion. These promises made before God and the Church are not only important during this earthly life but also affect the eternal destiny, life and reward of that person.

Just as a bride and groom made certain serious promises to each other so the new Christian makes several serious promises. These promises are meant to be paid. Vows made to God are not to be taken lightly but every effort must be expended to keep them. This is why we are called to love Him with every bit of our being, physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. It takes that degree of dedication to carry out these eternal promises.

For too many these promises become of less importance as the allurements of the world draw their hearts and minds away from their duties to God. The promises made are not only broad promises of faithfulness to God and the renouncing of Satan and his pernicious ways, some are quite specific, yet they oft times are not kept.

The promises to hold family devotions is often overlooked. The fast pace of the world around us draws many different ways instead of together for devotions. Another promise often ignored is that of using the Law of Pardon. While we recognize this to be Biblical, in practice we fail to use it. But it remains a promise we made. We promised also to receive and give counsel to one another that each might be encouraged to keep to the way leading to Heaven. Many other promises both specific and general have been made but too often are ignored.

Vows are important. We make them that we might be a part of the Church. We agree by our vows that we will conform to the order of the Church. We are warned that it is far worse for a person to make such promises and not keep them than to never vow at all.

Have you made these eternal promises to God? Have you kept them?



## WHERE THE HEART IS

"Home is where the heart is", whether it be a little shack in the hills, or a big mansion on the edge of town. You may live in England, but if your heart is in the United States, that's where your home is. That's where you desire most to be. That is where your heart will be the most at peace and where friends will seem the dearest.

In a spiritual sense, you are also at home where your heart is. If your heart is centered on Christ and eternal values, you will be at home with God's people, not the Devil's crowd. Your social activities, your goals in life — in fact nearly everything will be at cross-currents with a non-Christian, and you can't really be at home where Christ is left out.

"How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" Psal. 137:4. The children of Israel were not at home in Egypt or any of the other countries where they were held captive. They just couldn't put their hearts into worship in a place where they didn't feel at home nor belong. Neither can you. As an example, there are temples and churches dedicated to idols and Satan. You cannot worship God in such a place for it's not home to you and you don't belong there.

There are many other places and situations in which God's people do not belong. Each of you must evaluate your own life and decide what you should or should not do, where you should or should not go. You must decide on friends and other relationships. There is not one thing in your life about which you can say, "It doesn't matter what I do". The choices you make affect your own life, the lives of others and also tells everyone where your heart is.

"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jer. 29:13. Assuming that you have already believed and committed your life to Christ, now put your heart into it. It takes an all-out, wholehearted effort to find God, and He expects wholehearted service to follow. If your heart is not in serving God, you're not really at home with Him.

Home is where your heart is and so is your treasure. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:21. If your treasure is earthly, so will your heart be. What you have in this life is yours to use, but you can't buy Heavenly treasure with it. Heavenly treasure is eternal but the treasures of this life will pass away.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But

lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." Matt. 6:19-20. Whatever you own in this life, it can be wiped out in one tragic moment, but such won't happen to Heavenly treasure.

"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh." Luke 6:45. Whatever is in the heart will show up on the outside. People will know where your heart and treasure are.

"Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee." Psa. 73:25. Does this describe your relationship with God? The Psalmist knew that God was the only one he could depend on, and he desired to be with God. He was at home with God, because there was where his heart was.

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2. Jesus has a special place for those whose hearts are centered on Him. We think of it as our Heavenly home. If you are not "at home" with Jesus here on earth, then this home in Heaven is not for you either. Your home and your treasure are where your heart is for now and eternity. Where is your heart?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **THE DANGERS OF CHURCH DRAMATICS AND RELIGIOUS MOVIES**

Brother Harold Martin

Matthew 21:1-13

The early Brethren taught much about church dramatics and entertainment in the house of God. The most clear statement probably comes from a book published by the Brethren Publishing House in 1900, *THE BRETHREN'S TRACTS AND PAMPHLETS*, in which there is a chapter entitled *CHURCH ENTERTAINMENT* by I. J. Rosenburger. This chapter actually appears twice in the book, perhaps by design because they felt so strongly in this area, or in error on part of the printer. But the message is not some queer quirk of some preacher who is not caught up with the times, but pointing out an aspect of our heritage which we have stood for over the centuries, and is Biblically based.

In verse 13 of Matt. 21, Jesus said, "My house shall be called the house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves." God's house



is intended to be a very solemn and sacred place where the worship of God is a very serious business. In many places today the pulpit area is often turned into a stage for modified kinds of theatrical performances, where plays and religious movies often become the center of attraction, and the purpose is to entertain, dazzle, and to hold people in suspense. When the Lord was here on earth He cleansed the temple at least twice; and it is only proper that we be concerned about the proper worship of God.

It is always easy for God's people to go wrong, and we tend to follow the error of the heathen around us. Our subject is directed at religious dramatics and movies as they are used in an attempt to impart spiritual truth. Movies in themselves can be used in both constructive and destructive ways. The movie has been used successfully to teach Geography, Health, Science, and other such subjects. The movie spoken about in this message does not include nature or travel types of films where these are being used for good purposes. Nevertheless the movie has a very powerful potential for a wrong use. Most of the Hollywood movies are such an example. The modern religious movie, is also a harmful misuse of the film. When I mention the religious movie, I am discussing the motion picture which tries to deal with a spiritual theme by means of a dramatic presentation. The pictures are produced by the acting out of a religious story. An example of such a film could be the story of the Prodigal Son as given in Luke 15. In such a film actors would play the part of the prodigal, the father, his brother, the owner of the swine, and would contain such items as a plot, a sequence, and a climax to the story. Several recent and popular movies have been based on the rapture where the actors play the part of the unbelievers, the believers, and in at least one of the films, the part of Jesus in His return.

These films are acted out, filmed and shipped to various parts of the country for people to see. As the services begin, there is often a short devotion, the lights are turned off, and the message of the evening is the showing of this particular movie. After the movie, sometimes an invitation is given, a hymn is sung, and a plea is made for erring sinners to return to God. What is wrong with this hypothetical service anyway? Why should a preacher say that a religious movie is the misuse of an otherwise neutral instrument? There are some sound and valid reasons for this belief, and we will try to state them clearly.

#### 1. IT VIOLATES THE SCRIPTURAL LAW OF PREACHING

God's Word is made manifest through preaching as stated in Titus 1:3. The spoken word should be the central part of every service. John 5:24 states, "He that heareth my word, and believeth



on him that sent me, hath everlasting life," and Rom. 10:17 says that "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Verse 14 of the same chapter says, "and how shall they hear without a preacher?" The New Testament simply rules out drama in any form as a method of bringing spiritual truth to the human soul. The New Testament pattern is given in Rom. 10:8. "The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is the word of faith, which we preach." Clearly, that's God's method for proclaiming spiritual truth.

But some say the human mind is constructed in such a way that the mind receives through the eye five times as much as it receives through the ear. Surely then, the movie is a much more effective method of getting across the spiritual truth than the spoken word. My response is that the principle is true in the external physical world, but in the spiritual realm that principle simply is not true. In the spiritual world, the outer eye is not really very important. God directs His truth to the hearing ear. How many times does the Bible say, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear what the spirit says to the churches"? The Apostle Paul states that we look not at the things which are seen, for the things which are seen are temporal but the things which are not seen are eternal. Matters which are eternal cannot be seen with the human eye, so one of the reasons I object to drama and religious movies, is because these media focus on means other than hearing God's Word through preaching.

## 2. DRAMATICS AND RELIGIOUS MOVIES IMPLY THAT RELIGION CAN BE MADE A MATTER OF ENTERTAINMENT

This is the second reason I object to dramatics and religious movies. It implies that religion can become a mere form of entertainment. Religious performers and entertainers are increasing by leaps and bounds. People frequently look on religion as simply being another form of entertainment. Religious movies and dramatics help foster this concept.

The religious film identifies religion with the theatrical world. Some of the advertising of these movies reek of Hollywood. Not only are the advertisements similar to the Hollywood movies (so much so that they could easily be a part of the theatre section of the paper), but the advertisements are cast in a similar manner showing a young man and woman in a tender embrace with a caption emphasizing romance, suspense, and drama. Church plays and religious movies are intended to move people by enacting stories in a way that appeals to the flesh. They attempt to lure with a toy and imply that we Christians just have a jolly good time. Today, church-goers can go shopping around in the

Saturday edition of the newspaper and find out what is "playing" in the local churches. The ads speak of Christian skydivers, Gospel magicians, Clowns for Jesus, a pastor swallowing goldfish, the Quartet of Charms, HI FI Harmonettes, and speakers introduced as "God's man of the Hour", and so forth. There must be something new and exciting each and every Sunday... a love for entertainment.

Today, almost every mainline seminary has a course on the art of clowning in worship. Recently, I attended a mini-conference in the Mid-Atlantic area and they had a service in which there was clowning. That was a nauseating experience. But, clowning is not too much different from another type of service called the "all-night hymnsing" at which various types of Gospel clowns put on a kind of entertainment act all night.

I saw an ad from one of our neighboring independent Brethren churches describing their evangelistic services, and at the bottom of the ad it said, "Movies, music, and surprises galore". The church today loves all kinds of entertainment, and one of the most deceptive kinds of entertainment is the church play, whether acted out in movie form or in dramatic form. The whole emphasis follows the pattern of the theater and the methods of Hollywood.

Some people think that the religious play and the religious movie are blessed of God because some people come away with wet eyes. If God's blessing is proved because some people have wet eyes, then what about the movie theatre and the Hollywood entertainers who play on the emotions and move people to tears? Hollywood plays on the emotions to a great extent with all their kissing, dying, and murdering, and a lot of people come away from the theatre weeping. Weeping is not the evidence of the blessing of God on the service.

Deep spiritual understanding comes not from entertainment, but from much study, earnest prayer, and long periods of meditation. Learning spiritual truths is hard work, and each preacher and teacher must do his best to make the message practical, interesting and applicable to all of us. We must resolve to zero in on the simple practical study of God's Word carefully. We don't need more entertainment in God's church, we need more disciplined study of God's Word.

To be continued  
Selected and transcribed by  
Brother Rudy Shaffer



Forms are but symbols; we should never rest in them, but make them the stepping stones to the good to which they point.



## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### Friendship

The wise man, Solomon, wrote extensively about friendship and his statements are epitomized in Prov. 18:24 when he instructs, "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." We read in Prov. 17:17, "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

The best of men and women are not perfect. We too many times expect perfection from others which we do not experience in ourselves.

Can we both love and hate an individual at the same time? This actually happens in many people and it causes bitterness toward other people. In fact, it even happens in marriages that are not centered around God-given principles.

When two people become friends it is critical to understand how to interact in that relationship. As you become closer and you see more of each other you will learn as many or more things to dislike about each other than you like. The more intimate the relationship, the more ambivalence you might experience. We are kind of like cactus... the closer we get to each other the more it hurts.

What we learn from this is that we should not expect another person or relationship to be either totally good or totally bad... excluding the relationship with Jesus, of course.

You will never be content with your friendships as long as you view someone totally good or totally bad. People have multifaceted personalities. There are strong points and weak points to each of us and at any one time we may relate to one or the other of them.

We have all known people who have become bosom buddies with someone and for awhile that person is terrific, possibly perfect! But sooner or later, something they don't like will surface and their feelings toward that person will make a complete reversal. The person they "really liked" now becomes an object for disdain. And they move on to another hoped-for perfect person only to be eventually disillusioned once again.

Many of these kinds of people ultimately become cynical and angry at others and even at the church because of their lack of perfection and they become "loners." They will finally go into various states of depression.

We are attracted to a beautiful painting because of its various shades and tones of color. It has lights and darks and together they create something of great beauty and interest. The combination gives the picture its own unique character and identity. If we learn



to appreciate, or at least, lovingly tolerate different traits and characteristics in our friends, we will develop long and lasting relationships that will be fulfilling and we will experience the joy which Christ desires that we have in friendship.

In Ecc. 4:9 we read, "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour." (10) "For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up." Friends are important. They are worth a little extra work and consideration to keep.

Brother Leonard Wertz  
Quinter, Kansas

## DENYING THE POWER THEREOF

II Timothy 3:5 "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

There is much discussion and various opinions as to what this verse is referring to. We would not claim to have the knowledge or wisdom of many of those who make dogmatic statements on this verse. But we humbly submit what we have come up with after prayerful reading and study of scripture. We would express love and forbearance towards those who disagree with our conclusions.

After careful study, we feel that the "power" that is being denied is to be found in three areas. Namely the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Scriptures. We would like to look at these three areas in this light.

First of all, let us look at the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive POWER, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:..." The last part of this verse tells us that this power is given that we SHALL (not "can") be witnesses of Jesus Christ. If we refuse to allow the Holy Spirit to have control of our lives we will be impure witnesses. We believe this is one way we can "deny the power thereof."

To fully understand how we can do this we have to understand what the work of the Holy Spirit is. Some speak of miracles and "speaking in tongues." Others talk about the gift of salvation in relation to the Holy Spirit. While we believe that both of these may be valid ways the Holy Spirit works in our life, (He is definitely a part of our salvation), we feel that scripture goes beyond this. John 16:8 "And when he (the Holy Spirit) is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement." Verse 9 tells us that we will be judged of sin because we do not believe on Jesus Christ. We will be judged of righteousness because Jesus has gone to the Father and we see Him no more, according to

verse 10. And verse 11 tells us we will be reproved of Judgement because the prince of the world (Satan) is judged. To us these verses mean that we must follow all that Jesus Christ taught while he was on the earth and everything he taught through the apostles. These teachings are both negative (sin) and positive (righteousness). To refuse to follow these teachings is to follow Satan (judgment). Remember these things were spoken to FOLLOWERS of Jesus Christ. Before we leave this subject, we would make it clear that we do not believe that "speaking in tongues" is for everyone and that while God is certainly able to perform miracles in our day, He usually uses common every day methods to meet our needs.

Secondly, we would like to look at Jesus Christ. In John 1:12 we read, "But as many as received him, (Jesus Christ), to them gave he POWER to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" We see from this verse that to be saved we need to acknowledge the name of Jesus Christ. We believe this means much more than merely mouthing a name. While there is power in the name of Jesus Christ, we must accept who He really is. In Luke 1:32-33 we read, "He (Jesus Christ) shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever: and of his kingdom there shall be no end." There are three points of view (at least) on this verse. One holds that both the fatherhood of God and David are literal because Jesus was both God and man. Another viewpoint is that Jesus Christ was ONLY CALLED "the Son of the Highest" (God), but was literally the son of a descendant of David, namely Joseph. A third viewpoint is that God was the ONLY father of Jesus Christ and David was only "his father" in a spiritual sense. Along with this goes the argument as to whether the "throne of David" is a future literal throne or a present spiritual throne.

While it is true that Jesus Christ was both God and man and that His mother was of the household of David, we still contend that He only had ONE Father, namely God! In Matthew 1:1 we find, "... Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham." In Genesis 16:7 an everlasting covenant was established between God and Abraham and his seed after him. In Galatians 3:16 we find that this "seed" was Christ. Going back to Matthew 1 we find the human generation goes to Joseph. We do not accept Joseph as the father of Jesus, therefore we contend that David's "fatherhood" was ONLY spiritual. Therefore the "throne of David" is ONLY a spiritual throne. We believe that Jesus Christ is seated on this throne right now and is King of kings and Lord of lords. For in

John 17:2 we read, "As thou hast (God has) given him (Christ) power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him." Although this was spoken by Christ before His death, the next verse shows that He foresaw it as already accomplished in a prophetic sense. We would add that this verse does not teach Calvinistic predestination, but must be understood in light of I Corinthians 11:3.

Lastly, we take a short look at the Holy Scriptures. In Rom. 1:16 we find that the gospel of Christ, which we view to be Holy Scripture, "is the POWER of God unto salvation." Then in II Timothy 3:16 we find that "all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:" To use the scriptures in any other way is to "deny the power thereof."

Let us seek to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us, give Jesus Christ His rightful place in our lives and recognize Him for who He really is, and to realize that it is the Holy Scriptures that give us the ability to do these things, that we may not "deny the power thereof."

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch Street  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

February 15, 1924

"I AM THE WAY"

D. F. Lepley

Jesus said: "I am the way." He also said: "I am the door." And again he said: "I am the good shepherd."

Then He told us of two ways. One leads to heaven and life, the other leads downward to hell and misery.

He said that the downward way is broad and easy (at first).

He also said that upward is narrow, restricted, and hard (at first).

Now what does Jesus want us to understand by this language?

He tells us about the "fold", the "sheep", the "shepherd", the "door" and "the way."

He tells us too, about the one who tries to get into the fold by climbing in over the back fence instead of coming in along "the way" through "the door."

Jesus meant us to understand that the "fold" is the "Kingdom of God," and His church in the world. (As long as the world lasts.) He meant that the "sheep" are His children, Christians. And that He is "the door" through which we have entrance into the church.



He meant that He is "the way" that leads to the "door". The way that leads into the Kingdom. He is the way we go all along our life's journey until we come to the Golden Gate, at the end of the journey, and we have our happy lot in that glory world without end.

Jesus means to tell us that His way is the ONLY way. That His way must be OUR way. The "back fence" way will never do, it will never get us "in."

There are church members who say, "yes, I am in the way, I believe in Jesus, I am busy in His service," but their lives and actions belie their words. They are on the "back fence" way.

Jesus loved His enemies, He forgave them. He did good to His enemies, and blessed them, while many church members refuse to do either; they are not in "the way."

Jesus humbled Himself in full submission to His Father. And all that He ever thought about was that He might be of useful, helpful service to some poor, weak soul. But we have church members whose greatest ambition seems to be to lord it over the common folks, "the flock," and be looked up to by everybody as the big "bell sheep," the big leader, and if they cannot be "it", they quit, and will not do anything, they surely are not in "the way." They are not like their Master.

Jesus told Nicodemus that if he wanted to get into the "fold" he would have to change his life, yes, have his life changed and live a different life from what he had been doing. He would have to let the Holy Spirit of God control his life and get "born" again, made over into a new and different man. But there are church members who do not show any change in their lives at all, they are just as mean and vulgar and worldly; just as vain and proud and selfish; just as hard to get along with and unforgiving, and crazy after all the sinful worldly pleasures as they were before they joined church. They cannot possibly be in "the way," but are trying to get into the "fold" over the "back fence" route, and Jesus says we cannot get in that way, because He is the door through which we must enter. And that door is straight, so narrow, so confined, that whoever wants to get through it must strip off of his life all of the useless and offensive things that Jesus has commanded. He must get rid of all the things that God will and must rule out of heaven and keep rid of them until he dies.

There are many poor souls who have the deluded idea that they are in the church, in the "fold", in the "Kingdom" but have only gone through the formality of having their names enrolled in the church, but they themselves have never gone in, and of course, are not members, they refuse to give up the world and get into "the way." They refuse to get "born" into the family. They are just plain outsiders with their names enrolled but do not belong.

It is sad indeed, to contemplate that there will be many poor souls in "that day", who, deceived by devils in human form will come to the judgment and claim admission into the "fold" and be told by Jesus the Shepherd that they are total strangers to Him, that their names are not enrolled in the "Book of Life."

"But of all the sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these, 'it might have been.' "

Oh! the harrowing tragedy of it all is, that these wasted lives, many of them, might not have been condemned to an eternity of misery, had it not been for these devils in "sheep's clothing", these "pastors" who care not at all for the sheep, but only for the fleece, and who are filled with an insane ambition for leadership and honor, for notoriety, applause and a great name in the world, who "farmed" their flock to gratify their own worldly ambitions.

O, why not, my Brethren, forsake that "broad road" that we have gotten sidetracked onto, when the devil threw the switch against us some years ago, while we had nearly gone to sleep, (spiritually) and get back onto the main road again, "the way" even though it may mean hard traveling for a while, more self denial, and perhaps abuse and persecution, but it is safe, Brethren, it is "the way", the only way there is that leads homeward, but it goes by the way of the cross. May God help us to find that way and that door.

## THE PASSING YEARS

Naomi Merrill

Life is passing by so fast, Lord,  
I know I'm sure to miss  
A vital part unless you keep  
Reminding me of this.  
There's so much that I want to do,  
A lot I've left undone,  
So many plans discarded,  
And a few I've not begun.

Life passes by so fast, Lord,  
How often I've been told,  
It always does around the time  
That we are growing old.  
"For everything a season"  
Is wise as well as just,  
But I had rather wear me out,  
Than fall apart with rust.

Life passes by so fast, Lord,  
The days, the months, the years,  
Lord keep a smile upon my lips,  
And blot away the tears.  
Teach me to lean upon Your arm,  
When pain and sickness strike,  
To tell the facts from fancies,  
That sometimes look alike.

Life passes by so fast, Lord,  
And yet how kind You are,  
In granting me the precious years,  
That I have had so far.  
So let the days grow shorter,  
The darkest shadows part,  
But put the wrinkles on my face,  
... And never on my heart.

Selected by Sister Martha I. Harman

## NEWS ITEMS

### BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Bethel Congregation plans to hold revival meetings March 18 to April 1, 1984 with Bro. Fred Pifer, Dallas Center, Iowa as our evangelist.

We invite all who can to come and enjoy these services with us.

During the past summer we were glad for five precious souls who were received into the Church by baptism.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

### THANKS

I wish to express my appreciation and thanks to all who remembered me with cards, flowers, prayers, and words of encouragement while in the Elkhart Hospital. May the Lord add His blessing to each one of you.

Sister Meriam Pletcher



If a man does not make new acquaintances as he passes through life, he will soon find himself left alone. A man should keep his friendships in constant repair. - Johnson



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# BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## THE POWER OF PRAYER

There is an eye that never sleeps,  
Beneath the wing of night;  
There is an ear that never shuts,  
When sink the beams of light.

There is an arm that never tires,  
When human strength gives way;  
There is a love that never fails,  
When earthly loves decay.

That eye is fixed on seraph throngs,  
That arm upholds the sky;  
That ear is filled with angel songs,  
That love is throned on high.

But there's a power which man can wield  
When mortal aid is vain,  
That eye, that arm, that love to reach,  
That listening ear to gain.

That power is prayer, which soars on high,  
Through Jesus, to the throne;  
And moves the hand which moves the world  
To bring salvation down!

John A. Wallace

## THE CHRISTIAN'S LIFELINE

In His creative genius, God designed the human body so all the systems of the body work together to produce life, health and strength. When even a very small organ is diseased or injured, the whole body suffers. One of the body's major systems is the circulatory system, which moves the blood from the heart throughout the body and back to the heart in an unbelievably short period of time.

The blood is the body's lifeline for the life is in the blood. The blood not only carries fresh oxygen to the most remote parts of the body, it also carries back impurities. The blood is a cleansing agent for the body which is constantly putting off impurities that must be reprocessed in the heart and lungs.

Not only is the blood necessary for physical life it is also necessary for Spiritual life. The blood of Christ is a cleansing agent for removing the impurities of sin. Sin is a constant impurity in the lives of all men. Even Christians are in need of constant cleansings through prayer. While the Christian must first come in contact with the blood of Christ through faith, repentance, baptism and indwelling of the Holy Spirit, he must maintain his lifeline to God through prayer.

There are many kinds of prayers, which are illustrated in various incidents in the Bible. Jesus taught His disciples how to pray in the Sermon on the Mount. He had warned them about unprofitable repetition and falseness of heart during prayer. He taught them a prayer that contained all the necessary elements of prayer — praise, petition and intercession. He instructed them to use this prayer, not as a meaningless ritual, but as a vital living prayer and as a model for other prayers. It is reverent, concise and powerful. While much neglected by most Christians in their public and private prayers, it is to be the manner of our prayer.

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

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Jesus not only taught His disciples how to pray but labored in prayer Himself. There were many occasions when He separated Himself not only from the multitudes but also from His disciples that He might alone approach His Heavenly Father. Many of His nights were spent in private prayer. The night before His crucifixion He spent an agonizing time in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. It was a time of renewal in the hour of struggle. His work must be completed but there was a moment of weakness. This called for urgent prayer. There was settled the question of whose will He would follow. Prayer for the Christian is very needful in the hour of challenge and weakness. When the enemy is near success, the Christian needs to turn to the all powerful God of Heaven. Jesus did, so should we.

Men who served God found many occasions when they needed to turn to Him in prayer. This included David, who had sinned grievously in committing adultery with Bathsheba and eventually engineering the death of her husband Uriah. When Nathan brought the enormity of his sin before David, we find his broken and repentant heart turning to prayer. His prayer spoke of the gravity of sin, his need of forgiveness and his determination to go forth in fruitful service for his God. He realized the depths of sins when he saw that ultimately he had sinned against God as well as the people involved. Many times the Christian must go to his knees to seek forgiveness and cleansing for his sins.

David's descendant Hezekiah also sought God in prayer. His prayers were offered in times of personal and physical danger. When informed that death was imminent, he turned to prayer. His prayer prevailed for he was granted an additional fifteen years of life. He also prayed for the protection of Jerusalem when the Assyrians came against it. Their superior force could seemingly easily overcome the city. But after Hezekiah's prayer, they were no match for God's death angel. Deliverance was the result in both instances because prayer was made. In similar circumstances, the Christian may yet come unto God for help.

David's son, Solomon, was given the privilege of building the Temple. When he had concluded the seven year building project he offered a prayer at its dedication. He prayed for his people. He prayed that they might be faithful but when they weren't that God would have an open ear toward them. Even today our nation and its leaders need prayer. The most pressing need is not for the solution of military and political issues but of Spiritual issues. Our greatest prayer should be that individuals would become the children of God through the blood of Jesus Christ.

The blood is the lifeline of the human body, prayer is the lifeline of the Christian.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "The Unruly Member"

We read in Psalms 141:3, "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips." Have you ever had to think, "Why did I say that?" All of us need discretion... the ability to say the right thing at the right time. The Psalmist is teaching us to understand that we are in enemy territory... that sin is everywhere... and we need to be on the lookout. We could use a good armed soldier to keep us from saying something unchristian.

As a Godly person, we need to rely on Him for every word. You need not have a self-conscious fear of opening your mouth, but the confidence that a child has in a parent as he holds on to Dad's hand. It is the child who goes off by himself who gets into trouble. And, it is the Christian who thinks he can run his own show who is going to fall.

The old saying that "What exists in the well of the thoughts will soon come up in the bucket of the speech" is very true. Guarding your speech starts with guarding your heart. Jealously against another person can quickly cause an unkind word. Trying to protect your selfish interests can cause you to lash out at someone else. Unwillingness to see your own faults can make you defensive.

Discretion is rooted in "self-knowledge." We know what we are like: we are sinful and we have to depend on God. Any pride or cockiness on our part means we don't know what is in the human heart. Jeremiah asked about the human heart, "Who can know it?" Of course the answer to that question is God... and He says it is sinful. Because of the sin nature, we can't trust our own discretion. We need to learn the value of Godly silence. Discretion balks at rashness but is quick to encourage and speak positively.

I frequently tell the story of a woman who came to see her pastor and admitted, "I have been guilty of spreading false rumors and now I want to undo all the damage." The minister told her to take a sack of goose feathers to the street corner and throw them into the wind, then gather them all up. To this she replied, "Well, that is impossible!" The preacher replied, "So it is impossible to take back ill words which have been spoken."

Words do not just disappear. Your subconscious keeps playing back what someone has told you. The aftereffects last a long time. Words can't be erased or obliterated, so you must think how your words will affect the other person before you say them.

Someone might compliment you on your eyes or your smile... but possibly the nicest compliment you could ever receive would be on your tongue... and how you control and use it in a Christian manner.

Two phrases that need to be eliminated from your vocabulary are "I don't care what anyone says," and "Nobody is going to tell me what to do." These words and attitudes of the heart cause much personal injury as well as injury to the Church. The Bible terms these people "fools" and "scoffers"... and by their words they show their lack of obedience and willingness to accept correction or Biblical authority.

Your words are truly showing. Are they wickedly causing injury to someone or are they blessing God? To get victory from the sins of the tongue will require much prayer and soul searching, but it is worth it.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **WICKED RULERS**

Matt. 26:1-5, 14-16

Jesus was too popular to suit the rulers of the Jews. The people were following Him by the thousands. Jesus healed all manner of diseases. There was nothing or no one that He couldn't heal. He made the blind to see, He healed the lepers and raised the dead to life. No one had ever done the wonderful works and miracles that Jesus did. Everyone was talking about Jesus.

The common people heard Him gladly. Why not? He fed the multitudes with the loaves and fishes and healed their diseases. It didn't take a week or a month or a year to get well. Jesus said to the man that had a palsy, "Take up thy bed and walk." And the man did. Instantly he was made perfectly whole. Just a touch of the Master's hand and those who had been sick were in perfect health! Would you like to have been there and seen Jesus do those wonderful miracles?

One would think that everybody would love Jesus. He never harmed anyone but He did tell the Pharisees and rulers of some of the sinful things they had done. They were jealous of Jesus and planned many times to catch Jesus in His words or actions that they might arrest Him. One time they sent officers to take Jesus but when they heard Jesus speak they returned to the rulers and said, "Never man spake like this man." There was no way that they could accuse Jesus of doing wrong because He never did.

Jesus told His disciples that it was just two days till the passover and that He would be betrayed and crucified. The chief priest, and the scribes, and the elders of the people assembled together at the palace of the high priest and they consulted and planned how they might take Jesus and kill Him. They decided that this couldn't be done on the Passover day because they feared the people. If they were to cause Jesus to die, it must be before that time and there were only two days left.



Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve of Jesus' disciples, went unto the chief priests and said, "What will you give me, and I will deliver Jesus unto you?" And they agreed to give him thirty pieces of silver. And from that time Judas sought opportunity to betray Jesus.

How wicked can people be? Judas had seen the miracles Jesus had done — He walked on the water, calmed the storm, healed the sick and raised the dead — yet he let Satan work his will in him — to betray Jesus. The rulers condemned Jesus because He would not deny that He was the Son of God.

He was the Son of God and He is the Son of God. He is coming again and He will come as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Jesus came to save your soul. Let Jesus come into your heart and He will make you clean and pure. He died that you might have everlasting life!

Brother Rudy Cover

## PEACE IN TIME OF TROUBLE

"And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm." Mark 4:37-39.

It is easy to picture this windstorm, with the white-caps on the waves. The boat was full of water, and about to sink, with the storm continuing to rage. The disciples were terrified and their distress was intensified because Jesus was sleeping. Why, when they needed Him most, wasn't He paying attention and helping them?

Is there a storm in your life, one which is about to overwhelm you? You know Jesus came to this earth to make peace with God for us, but you wonder if it stops there. Or, does His peace cover life's storms? The answer is yes.

Peace of heart must come before peace of mind is possible. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:1. After peace with God is established, and the burden of sin is gone, it brings a calm to your soul. This is peace of heart.

We need peace of mind also, and we have a promise of this. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27. When Christ's peace is within, the effect of our problem is not the same, because His peace overrules the distress. This doesn't mean

we'll never hurt or get upset, but we can be tranquil and serene, rather than falling apart emotionally.

"I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety." *Psa. 4:8*. Another part of peace is resting in God's care. There's no need of lying awake nights, fearing that He'll not care for you, or that He will forget you need Him. You can be sure your petitions have been heard, even though the answer doesn't come immediately. It's while you're waiting for the answer that you need to rest in God's care and love. Therein is contentment and peace.

A time of great distress may come before complete peace is given. "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." *1 Peter 5:10*. The suffering comes, then the perfecting and the strengthening. At last you are settled—restored to calmness. The greatest calm comes after a violent storm, and so it is in your life.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." *Isa. 26:3*. Perfect peace is whole, complete, excellent. It couldn't be better. Seek all that God has for you. Don't settle for second, third or fourth best, but ask for God's best in your spiritual life, for the perfect peace He wants you to have.

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." *Phil. 4:7*. Peace in the time of trouble? Certainly! How? Through Christ and the strength He alone can give. If you are depending on yourself, trying to cope with life alone, no wonder you are in distress. But with Jesus' help, you can have the peace which passes our understanding and keeps us well-balanced both spiritually and emotionally. This is the only peace which will help you in the times of trouble.

Times of trouble and distress will come and our approach to these times will make a big, big difference in the effect on us and others. It is not for us to throw up our hands in despair and quit, nor to dump the responsibility on someone else. The keeping power of Christ has been promised to us, and with that assurance, we need to continue on, doing the best we can. If our minds are on Christ, we can have His peace, even in times of trouble.

Sister Eileen Broadwater



To have freedom is only to have that which is absolutely necessary to enable us to be what we ought to be, and to possess what we ought to possess. - Rahel

## **THE DANGERS OF CHURCH DRAMATICS AND RELIGIOUS MOVIES**

Continued from February 15, 1984 Issue

### **3. RELIGIOUS PLAYS AND DRAMATICS EMBODY ACTING WHICH IS IN VIOLATION OF SINCERITY**

Each individual person is a unique creation from the hand of God. It is hypocrisy for any person to pretend that he is some person who he is not. Our word hypocrite comes directly from the Greek theatre, and that word means to wear a mask, to play a part, or to assume the character of another. An actor portrays one kind of character, while at the same time he is a different kind of person. In order to put on a religious play (acted or filmed) one person must disguise his individuality and play the part of another. He pretends to pray, he pretends to be a worshipper, or he pretends that he is sorry. He pretends to do a lot of things. Every act is faked and every smile is false and every tone is artificial. It's all put on; none of it is real.

Suppose a child is assigned the part of King Herod in a Christmas play. Somewhere along the line, that child (in order to act out his part) must pretend (like Herod) that he is angry, then he is jealous, and finally in acting his role as Herod, he is to pretend he is going to cause the murder of thousands of infants. I just recently came across a Christmas play in which a young man is to pretend that he is the Holy Spirit and to make advances to the supposed virgin Mary (of all things) in order to bring about her expectancy of the Christ child.

A religious play... it might be well for us to remember that the Bible says that fools make a mock at sin (Prov. 14:9). And as far as playing the part of Christ is concerned, who among us is worthy to pretend that he is God. Acting out the role of Christ in any kind of play, in my judgment, is raw blasphemy... a serious sin in the eyes of God.

Drama was first used by the heathen Egyptians, it was further refined by the ancient Greeks, and then borrowed by the Romans for their entertainment in the amphitheatre. Then the church borrowed the idea, and during the Middle Ages they approved of religious plays known as the Miracle Plays and the Morality Plays. And it was this period (known as the most corrupt period in all Christendom) which was called the Dark Ages. The fact is that history shows that there has never been a spiritual revival when drama played a major role in the church.

### **4. THERE IS NO BIBLICAL AUTHORITY FOR THE USE OF RELIGIOUS DRAMA**

The true Bible believing church should be able to give a scriptural reason for all of her activities. We meet together, we pray together,



we hear the Word of God expounded upon, we set aside offerings for the work of the church, we baptize new converts, practice the feet-washing service, all of these are taught and exhorted by the Scripture. We bear one another's burdens, we care for each other, share one another's sorrows. These activities, and many, many others have New Testament authority, but where in the Scripture do we find authority for religious plays and dramatics? Is there any authority for a religious movie or a religious play? Where is the authority for introducing the pagan art of acting into the church? Where do you find it in the New Testament? Anyone who is advocating church plays and drama in order to get people into the church, let them quote just one verse from any book of the New Testament to justify their appeal.

The best argument such a person can use is in the argument that we are living in modern times and a changed culture, and modern times call for new up-to-date methods. This is the philosophy of the world around us. God has ordained four methods by which the truth shall prevail, and the church play is not one of them. The four methods are prayer, singing, proclamation by means of words, and proclamation by means of good deeds. When the church prays in the Spirit, and sings in the Spirit, and when the preacher preaches with Holy Spirit power, the church influences men and women for Christ.

#### 5. RELIGIOUS MOVIES AND DRAMA ARE OUT OF HARMONY WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE SCRIPTURE.

It is impossible to harmonize the spirit of the religious movie and play with the Spirit of the sacred Scriptures. Try to imagine Elijah, for example, attempting to appear before Ahab with a roll of film, or the Apostle Peter standing up on the day of Pentecost, and after a brief introduction of the film, he says, "Lights out please." Or think of Jeremiah when he was called to preach. He halted and hesitated and pleaded with God because he was not a fluent speaker, and God said, "I have put my words in your mouth," and he became a flaming spokesman for the Lord. Don't you suppose that Jeremiah could have done even better, or perhaps made it even without the touch of God, if he would have only had a good 16mm projector and a good roll of acted-out film?

Those who promote preaching the Gospel with the movie concept, simply cannot compare the shallow presentations of the film with the spirit of the prophets and the power of the early apostles. It is impossible to compare those two on an equal basis. Drama is the art of making an audience believe that real things are happening to real people, when indeed they are not happening. Whereas, the Scripture, by contrast, describes the true nature of a witness for Jesus Christ in Acts 4:20, where we read: "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Those who witness truly for Christ do not

attempt to make people believe something which is not really happening, but share that which has absolutely been his own experience. That's a true witness for Christ. The Play takes the unreal and attempts to make people believe that it's real, whereas the Christian knows what's real, and has simply to share it with others.

#### 6. THE RELIGIOUS PLAYS AND DRAMATICS DEVELOP A TASTE FOR OTHER DRAMA AND OTHER MOVIES.

The minds of those persons who feed often on religious films, won't be satisfied for long with the inferior stuff from which religious films are made. People who see a number of religious films will soon demand the real thing, and what do we say to those who ask why they should not attend the secular movie houses. The showing of religious films with the plot, the sequence, and the climax, causes people to have a passion to see the secular movies and plays, and it gives some the incentive to become professional actors themselves. Remember, back in the history of the early church, one of the jobs that had to be given up before one could even be baptized, was that of acting. The church would not receive an actor into fellowship until that job was totally given up. Some time ago, a movie producer employed a young girl for the stage and she played her part so well in the testing and interview, and with such skill from the very beginning, that the manager asked her, "How could you possibly do so well on your very first try?" Her reply was, "I've been learning it all along at Sunday School."

The prevalence of dramatics and religious movies in the church today is the symptom of the fact that the church is in such a poor state of spiritual health. Only the absence of Spirit power in the pulpit, and the lack of real discernment of God's people in our day, can account for the rapid spread of dramatics and religious films that are all around us today.

I was preaching at one of the largest churches in the brotherhood a couple of years ago. It was a Sunday evening service, and there was to be a series of Sunday evening evangelistic services with a different speaker each Sunday evening. The congregation at that time had 1063 members, and on that special evening during the evangelistic series, there were thirty people at the service. The worship leader was kind of embarrassed and began to make apologies for the lack of attendance and this is what he said: "The only way we can get a crowd in this congregation on a Sunday evening, is to give a dramatic presentation, a religious play or to have a banquet, or some widely known outstanding gospel group, and if we pick one of those three, this place is packed out on a Sunday night." But out of 1063 members for an evangelistic meeting, there were only thirty people present.



The plain truth is that such are the symptoms of a sick church, and in fact they are the symptoms of a dead church. It has to rely on plays and dramatics to attract its carnal people to its services.

I urge each of us to simply draw the line and refuse to follow the crowd. Let's not participate in attending the church plays and movies. In this way at least, we'll renounce the spirit of Hollywood and we'll have a little more time for the careful systematic study of the Word of God as we continue our spiritual journey.

Of course, I have not said anything yet to this point, about the blasphemous plays which are so widely advertised such as GODSPELL, a musical drama based on the book of Matthew. It pictures Jesus as a singing, dancing clown wearing red makeup on his nose and a superman tee shirt under his suspenders. And, John the Baptist takes a sponge and sprinkles people in order to depict baptism, and the play ends with the dead body of Jesus being carried out without a resurrection scene. This drama was being acted out in one of the York, Pennsylvania churches a short time ago.

I make no apology for speaking out on a doctrine which you may have never heard much about before. The early Brethren spoke often about drama in the church and about entertainment in God's house and among God's people. The principles of God's Word have not changed. There is no doubt in my mind that dramatics and movies have played a big part in the decline and the apostasy in the church in recent decades.

Selected and transcribed by  
Brother Rudy Shaffer

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

March 1, 1924

### **THE WORLD OR CHRIST**

B. E. Kesler

When our Master was here on earth He had occasion at various times to call the attention of His hearers to the fact that there exists a power which stands in opposition to Him and His work. It was so in the garden, where the opposing power overcame our first parents and brought woe into the world. Many of God's servants through the times of the judges and prophets, felt the same power striving to bring their work to naught. Jesus was tried by the same power, but came off conqueror, though the power that makes for unrighteousness was not driven to his final abode. Those who have lived since the time when Jesus was here have felt the evil influence of this same hostile power. And those who shall live after us will continue to feel the evil



coming from this power to the end of time. So long as man is in the flesh there is no escape from trial and temptation.

Untold millions of the human race have through the ages been deceived, have lost much of the real joy which they might have had in this world in order to gain that which could satisfy but for a moment, and have lost the hope of life eternal. Every man or woman who has read the New Testament knows that it is not possible to serve the world and Christ; for it was Christ himself who said, "Ye cannot serve two masters." These words are read and re-read by persons who live in and for the world. None of these things move them to forsake the world for Christ. Some minds are so peculiar that they can profess to believe that obedience to Christ is necessary to salvation, and at the same time expect to be saved while disregarding at least three out of four of his commands.

Our fathers started out well more than two hundred years ago. Some generations of them ran well, lived up to their profession by keeping themselves as much as possible unspotted by the world. But in recent years the church has lapsed sadly. Judging from the way it has gone into the world and allowed the world to enter its doors, the church has decided that it need not come out from the world and be separate. But those who think so and act so are mistaken, are deceiving themselves: God is not mocked. This is especially true of congregations which profess to be up to date. They tell of their entertainments to raise money; they describe the ways in which they unite with others who do not even profess to believe that full obedience is necessary to salvation.

Ye cannot serve two masters, God and mammon, Christ and the world. And since we cannot serve both, and one of them means life and the other death, it is a matter of vital importance which of the two we serve. Choose ye this day whom ye will serve — the world or Christ. Today we can choose whom we will serve; but we have no assurance that tomorrow, or next month, or next year we shall be able to choose. God will not always strive with man; sooner or later the books will be closed and we shall be judged according to the things written therein. And from the decision there will be no appeal. Seeing these things are so, what manner of men ought we to be? To whom should we render obedience?

There are many who do not like to be reminded of these things. But that makes it all the more necessary to write and speak of them. If all who profess to follow Christ kept themselves separate from all the evil of the world, it would not be necessary to remind one another of this duty so frequently. It is not a question of what we like or do not like: the question of greatest importance, the only one that really matters, is, whether we will be obedient unto life, or disobedient unto death.

There is no middle ground. The decision is ours; the reward or the punishment will also be ours.

In the way Christ marked out there must be some self-denial. But the more we study the Word, the more we see the reasonableness of it; for nowhere in it is the true follower denied anything that is for the real good of his body or soul. Nothing is forbidden but what would be in some way harmful. The great difficulty is that the carnal nature is not put off at the time when it seems that the world is being forsaken for Christ. In order to find peace there must be a submission of the human will to the Divine Will. The carnal mind must be brought under and the spiritual mind exalted. The flesh is too much pampered, the spirit too much neglected. And that is why the spiritual plays so small a part in the world.

We cannot make the choice once for all: it is a daily choosing between Christ and the world. Paul had something like this in mind when he said, "I die daily." It was necessary every day to suppress desires of the flesh which were contrary to the spirit. And it is no less necessary for us to die daily to all evil desires. When the flesh is brought into subjection, then there is peace; as long as there is strife between the carnal and the spiritual, peace is impossible. But the more the spirit triumphs, the less the flesh strives; and finally the point is reached where Christ is all and the world, so far as seeming desirable is concerned, is nothing.

Christ means life; the world means death and separation from Christ. How can anyone hesitate or fail to choose life?



Generosity during life is a very different thing from generosity in the hour of death; one proceeds from genuine liberality and benevolence, the other from pride or fear. - Horace Mann



All my experience of the world teaches me that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the safe and just side of a question is the generous and merciful side. - Anna Jameson



He who gives what he would as readily throw away, gives without generosity; for the essence of generosity is in self-sacrifice. - H. Taylor

## OBITUARY

### OLLIE MALLOW

Sister Ollie Mable Mallow, widow of the late Elder Owen Mallow, died at home at Clearville, Pennsylvania on Sunday morning, June 26, 1983, at the age of 77 years, 5 months, and 17 days. She was born on January 9, 1906, the daughter of Arthur and Clara Harper at Onego, West Virginia.

On March 28, 1925, she was united in marriage with Owen Mallow. This union was blessed with ten children. Three children preceded her in death: a son, Manfred, in 1938; a daughter, Mildred, in 1951; and a daughter, Evelyn, wife of Bernie Moyer, in 1967. Her companion departed from this life on March 27, 1969.

She and her companion were baptized at the same time and placed into the Church of the Brethren before their marriage. They came to the Dunkard Brethren Church in the late 1920's at Onego, West Virginia. In 1939 they moved to Bedford County, Pennsylvania and became members of the Waynesboro Dunkard Brethren Congregation and Ward's Mission at Clearville, Pennsylvania.

She is survived by seven children; Loma, wife of Walter Price, of Everett, Pennsylvania; Ilda, wife of Glentis Valentine, of Clearville, Pennsylvania; Eldon, husband of former Angeline Shaffer, of Greencastle, Pennsylvania; Retha, wife of Robert Matthews, of Annville, Pennsylvania; Clara Strayer, of Everett, Pennsylvania; Naomi, wife of Curtis Bickerstaff, of Sellersville, Pennsylvania; Ollie, wife of Thomas Noecker, of Sellersville, Pennsylvania; eighteen grandchildren; seventeen great-grandchildren; four brothers; four sisters; and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted on June 29, 1983 at the United Methodist Church in Onego, West Virginia, by Elder Jacob Ness and assisted by Elder Frank Shaffer.

Burial was in the Mallow Cemetery, Riverton, West Virginia.

## NEWS ITEMS

### MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGES

Due to changes made by the Post Office the new address of Bro. Carl Broadwater is R. 10, Box 459, York, Pennsylvania 17404. The new address of Bro. Howard E. Myers is 850 Chambers Road, York, Pennsylvania 17402.

Bro. Herman Jamison should be listed as an Elder.



## 1984 GENERAL CONFERENCE

June 9-13, 1984

The Lord willing, 1984 General Conference will be held at Roxbury Camp Grounds, Roxbury, Pennsylvania.

More detailed information as to directions, lodging and transportation will be furnished at a later date.

We would appreciate having your reservations as soon as possible. Write to:

Verling Wolfe

R.D. #1482

Bethel, Pennsylvania 19507

or

Edwin S. Stauffer

Box 291 Sinclair Road

R.D. 1

Newmanstown, Pennsylvania 17073

## NEWBERG, OREGON

We are looking forward to our Revival Meetings to be held, Lord willing, April 1 through 8. Lovefeast Services on the 7th. Bro. Leonard Wertz will be our evangelist. Pray, come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Esther Roedel, Cor.

## DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

The Dallas Center Congregation will hold their Lovefeast on April 21, the Lord willing. Services will begin 10:45 A.M. Saturday. There will be services all day on Sunday. The Lovefeast will be held Saturday evening.

Come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Mary Sue Moss, Cor.

## PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation plans, the Lord willing, for their revival to begin March 18 through April 1. Our evangelist is Bro. Eugene Kauffman from Harrisonburg, Virginia.

The communion services are to be March 31 and April 1, beginning at 11 o'clock Saturday morning, continuing at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon with the Lovefeast Saturday night. There will be services on Sunday. We send a welcome for all to come enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhenn, Cor.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MARCH, 1984 OF THE EARTH

Memory Verse: 2 Sam. 23:4

And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.

Thur. 1 - 1 Sam. 4:1-22

Fri. 2 - 1 Sam. 5:1-12

Sat. 3 - 1 Sam. 6:1-21

Memory Verse: 1 Kings 8:23

And he said, Lord God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart.

Sun. 4 - 1 Sam. 7:1-17

Mon. 5 - 1 Sam. 17:38-58

Tues. 6 - 2 Sam. 23:1-7

Wed. 7 - 1 Kings 2:1-12

Thur. 8 - 1 Kings 4:29-34

Fri. 9 - 1 Kings 8:1-21

Sat. 10 - 1 Kings 8:22-43

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 19:15

And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord, and said, O Lord God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.

Sun. 11 - 1 Kings 8:44-66

Mon. 12 - 1 Kings 17:1-24

Tues. 13 - 1 Kings 18:1-24

Wed. 14 - 1 Kings 18:25-46

Thur. 15 - 2 Kings 5:1-27

Fri. 16 - 2 Kings 10:1-17

Sat. 17 - 2 Kings 10:18-36

Memory Verse: 1 Chron. 29:15

For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding.

Sun. 18 - 2 Kings 19:1-19

Mon. 19 - 2 Kings 19:20-37

Tues. 20 - 1 Chron. 16:1-22

Wed. 21 - 1 Chron. 16:23-43

Thur. 22 - 1 Chron. 17:1-27

Fri. 23 - 1 Chron. 21:1-15

Sat. 24 - 1 Chron. 21:16-30

Memory Verse: 2 Chron. 6:18

But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built!

Sun. 25 - 1 Chron. 29:1-15

Mon. 26 - 1 Chron. 29:16-30

Tues. 27 - 2 Chron. 6:1-21

Wed. 28 - 2 Chron. 6:22-42

Thur. 29 - 2 Chron. 16:1-14

Fri. 30 - 2 Chron. 32:1-17

Sat. 31 - 2 Chron. 32:18-33

Memory Verses: 2 Chron. 6:33

Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that all people of the earth may know thy name, and fear thee, as doth thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name.

2 Chron. 16:9a

For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.

Lester Fisher  
4664 N. State Rte. 48  
Covington, OH 45318

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

MARCH 15, 1984

NO. 6

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## GOD IS LOVE, HIS MERCY BRIGHTENS

God is love; His mercy brightens  
All the path in which we rove;  
Bliss he wakes, and woe he lightens;  
God is wisdom, God is love.

Chance and change are busy ever;  
Man decays, and ages move;  
But his mercy waneth never;  
God is wisdom, God is love.

E'en the hour that darkest seemeth  
Will his changeless goodness prove;  
From the gloom his brightness streameth;  
God is wisdom, God is love.

He with earthly cares entwineth  
Hope and comfort from above:  
Ev'rywhere his glory shineth;  
God is wisdom, God is love.

- Sir John Bowring



## LIARS

Any liberty taken with the truth is a lie. Whether we vary the truth just a little or alot, it is still a lie. We may deceive ourselves by believing that we can justify a "white lie." We may think that lying is not a serious sin like adultery or murder, but we can just as readily lose our Heavenly Home by lying as by killing.

John, the Beloved Apostle, warns about lying. Although John speaks much about love — Gods and ours, he also speaks of love's desire for truth. True love does not neglect discipline and warning. John writes of the truth and men's attempts to change it. Read I John 1.

The seriousness of lying is manifest when we realize that its source is Satan. Jesus spoke of Satan as being a liar from the beginning and the father of it. So being untruthful puts one under the influence of our soul's worst enemy. Satan is not hindered by the truth when he tempts men to sin. However he allures one to sin, he will not truthfully show the results of yielding to his allurements. He paints a picture of pleasure and profit rather than the true picture of pain and punishment.

Sin is pictured in the Bible as darkness. In contrast to this darkness, God is exalted as being light. Since God is light, there can be no suggestion of darkness with Him. The faintest hint of untruth would be darkness. At the Creation God first spoke light into existence. This shows the importance of light that it was first. God's holiness and righteousness is foremost.

As Christians we are to live godly lives, which imitate His righteousness. As imitators of Christ we will have fellowship with the Father as the Son does. But that fellowship can be broken by sin. Since God is light, He can not fellowship with darkness. If we are not like Him

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****MARCH 15, 1984**

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then we are darkness and out of fellowship with Him. If we claim fellowship with Him but we do not walk in the light we are then found to be liars. If liars we are a part of darkness and unable to be in fellowship with Him. It is far better to be out of fellowship with men than to be out of fellowship with God.

When in the light and in fellowship with God, we also have fellowship with others who are in the light. Being in the light requires a walk. It is not just standing still. There is action required to be in that light. Being in the light also signifies a cleansing through the blood of Jesus Christ.

To look at ourselves as sinless is to deceive ourselves. We may be able to cover our misdeeds so no other man will know of them but they can not be hidden from God. Self-deception is so dangerous. If we do not realize where we are, we will take no measures to rescue ourselves. If we consider ourselves to be without sin then we will not implement the Plan of Salvation. It is not only the evil but also many who are morally good who are self deceived. They are like the one who looks into a looking glass but very soon afterwards forgets what he saw there. If the mirror of God's Word does not cause one to see the ever present sin in his life nothing will. By denying the presence of sin we are showing the lack of truth within us.

The wonderful message of the Bible is that once sin is acknowledged, there is a remedy. God is faithful and just to forgive that sin. He is the only one who can not only forgive sin but also cleanse it away. It can be buried in the sea of His forgetfulness. There is no need for one to fear having his sin revealed, for by its revelation there is the cleansing necessary to be in fellowship with God.

It is a terrible thing to delude and deceive ourselves by believing we have no sins. It is an even worse thing to deny the existence of sin and thereby call God a liar. To attribute a lie, darkness or sin to God is to commit blasphemy, for He is light. God declares in His Word that all are guilty of sin. There is not a one who can escape or refute that charge. It is better to consider all men to be liars than to attribute untruth to God. If we say He has lied then it is evident His Word is not in us. We are then in a lost condition, without hope in darkness of the world. Paul writes, "Be not deceived God is not mocked, For whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

Amongst even worldly men there is little respect for the liar. Consider then the place of the liar before God. He places himself in league with Satan and in opposition to God. Sin is rampant in the lives of all. Confession is the only sure cure. Come out of the darkness into the glorious light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.





## EXCUSES, EXCUSES!

"Excuses, excuses — we hear them everyday." So goes a line from a rather humorous but very true song. Some of the silliest reasons are given for not doing this or that, or for indulging one's self in some way or other. We can find an excuse for almost anything, if that's what we want to do, but excuses never make things right.

The overeater says, "I don't need this, but I do enjoy it." The drug-user (and there are many) says, "It won't hurt me", and later finds himself trapped by his own need. An employee says his employer expects too much, so he shirks his duty on the job. These excuses are an effort to avoid responsibility for one's own actions, and as long as we can excuse ourselves in something, we'll never have any victory over it.

It's hard to say, "I did it" or "It's my fault", but accepting responsibility for our own actions is necessary. Unless and until we accept such responsibility, we can't be what God wants us to be. It's hard to say "I haven't been doing a very good job", but we can't blame others for our carelessness, and expect God to let us get by. Adam blamed Eve, she blamed the serpent, but God placed the blame where it belonged.

Oftentimes children will make excuses for not doing what they should, such as "I don't have time to clean up my room" or "I'm too tired to do it". Yet there is time for what he or she wants to do, and energy to spare. We readily see through their excuses, but when we make excuses to God and to man, we can't see it.

Adam ate the forbidden fruit, Aaron made the golden calf, and both made excuses which were not accepted. Ours won't be either. Moses thought he couldn't talk fast enough, and Gideon thought he wasn't worth anything, but God told them to do the job anyhow. Jonah tried to excuse his flight to Tarshish by saying he knew God wouldn't bring the judgment Jonah preached. A poor excuse, to be sure, and God had to teach him so.

No matter what the situation, we can find an excuse for not doing the right thing, if we want one. But God doesn't want excuses. He wants action and for us to be responsible and obedient to Him. God also expects us to do right by our fellow-man. Whether we work at home, or away from home, we have certain responsibilities, and God expects us to take care of these also.

What do we really mean when we offer excuses? For example, when we say, "I can't", it may mean "I don't want to", or "I'm too lazy to try". Our excuses are often a cover-up for the real reason for our actions. These excuses express our unwillingness to accept the responsibility which is ours. Some changes become necessary when we face the truth about ourselves, and as long as we can avoid facing



the truth, we can avoid changing.

Even so, this does not excuse us, and God will someday require us to give account for our actions. Jesus said, "If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin; but now they have no cloak for their sin." John 15:22. Wrong-doing cannot be covered up and there will be no offering excuses to God then, so why try to excuse yourself now?

We hear all kinds of excuses from people such as the child who "didn't have time to do his schoolwork", and from adults who excuse poor-quality work. We hear excuses for not going to Church (don't have time, the weather isn't suitable, too many hypocrites, and so forth) but the same people go to work without a problem. We hear excuses for intemperance and various forms of self-indulgence. In reality, there are no excuses, no justification for anything which is contrary to God's will for us.

"And they all with one consent began to make excuse." Luke 14:18a. These individuals were more concerned about their own affairs than about God's bidding. Whenever we put ourselves and our desires ahead of our responsibility to God and man, we are in trouble, and excuses won't help. In your own life, sort out your goals and desires, and put God first. Accept full responsibility for your actions before God and man. Don't offer lame excuses.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **DO WE INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE?**

Matthew 19:29 "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life."

One of the teachings held by those who teach unconditional eternal security and those who hold to the postponed kingdom and Jewish Millennial theory is that Christians do not inherit salvation. We would agree with this statement as long as they are referring to a FLESHLY inheritance, but they go beyond that. The strange part is while they would agree that Christians do not inherit salvation through the flesh, they try to give such assurance to future Jews in a supposed postponed kingdom leading up to a supposed Jewish Millennial!

We would like to state that we do not claim to have perfect wisdom or knowledge. If what we are about to share contains error we ask the forgiveness of God and man. We confess that for many years we studied scripture with the purpose in mind to find "hidden meaning" to vindicate our pet theories. We feel God has recently revealed to us the simple truths of scripture. These truths were held by our Brethren

forefathers and most of the believers of their time. The complicated interpretation of scripture, which most of our conservative Brethren and "sister" denominational members seem to hold to, is propagated by those who follow the teachings of C. I. Scofield, who we view as a false teacher.

In Mark 10:17 and Luke 18:18 we have an individual asking Christ what he must do to inherit eternal life. If we do not inherit eternal life this would have been the perfect time for the Holy Spirit to tell us so! But nothing is said to make us believe the questioner was in error as to his statement. The same question is asked in Luke 10:25 by a different individual. Again we are not told that the question was in error. We realize that these were Jewish individuals. But certainly they would not have to wait until some supposed postponed kingdom came to receive eternal life. We know that the vast majority of the early New Testament Church was made up of converted Jews who had received eternal life.

In I Corinthians 15:50 we read, "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God: neither doth corruption inherit incorruption." Paul is making a comparison here. The first part of his statement reminds us of the statement of Jesus in John 3:3; 5 and 6. "Jesus answered and said unto him, verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (Nicodemus then asks him how he can be born twice physically.) "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." If we allow scripture to interpret itself, we see that what Christ is saying (and Paul) is that our carnal nature cannot inherit eternal life. One of the arguments used by those who deny that Christians inherit eternal life is that we are born into salvation, we do not inherit it. Of course we are "born" into salvation, but who ever heard of someone having an inheritance who was never born? At the same time they try to give this inheritance to fleshly Jews who they claim are "God's chosen people." Rev. 3:9 says plainly, "Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold I will make them come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." Christ is speaking to the church in Philadelphia when he uttered these words. We know that only God is to be worshipped. We believe what Christ is saying is that the Jews of that day, thus the Jewish people of our day and their descendants must come to the Church for salvation. We do not hate the Jewish people as some fanatics of today do. But we love them too much to allow them or their descendants to look for salvation in some supposed postponed kingdom of Jewish Millennial. We might also add that we believe all true Jews accepted the truth of the Trinity.



Acts 20:32 tells us we have an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. Verses 28 of this chapter tells us this is speaking of "the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." This truth is repeated in Acts 26:17-18. Ephesians 1:13-14 tells us we are sealed with the holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest (down payment) of our inheritance. Hebrews 9:15 tells us that Jesus Christ gives us the promise of eternal inheritance. Colossians 1:12 tells us we are to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints.

In Rev. 21:7 we read, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." We look forward to that time when our inheritance will be ours in full. Just as an individual born into a wealthy family has the BENEFITS of his inheritance at birth and through life it takes a death to make the inheritance final and truly theirs, so we have benefits of our inheritance but it will be fully realized when we have our new body in the new heaven and new earth.

If you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord you will inherit eternal damnation. This is the result of never accepting the new nature. We invite you to be "translated into the kingdom of his dear Son" (Colossians 1:13) and receive the inheritance of eternal life.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch Street  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **WASHING FEET**

John 13:1-20

The roads to Jerusalem were dusty and many travelers came to this city once a year to keep the Passover feast. It was about time for the Passover and many who lived far away arrived in Jerusalem tired and dusty. People wore sandals then and it was a custom when someone arrived at a home of a relative or friend that water would be brought in a basin so they could wash their feet. If the master of the house was rich and important, he would have a servant do it.

The Jews knew all about the custom of washing feet. It was a courteous act on the part of the one who performed it.

Jesus knew that He would soon be betrayed and arrested and condemned to die and He desired to eat a last meal with His disciples which we now celebrate as the "Lord's Supper".

Jesus sent two of His disciples to a place that had an upper room where they were to prepare this meal. The supper was ready to eat and Jesus stood up and laid aside His garments (I suppose He had on



a cloak and coat or sweater — probably the one that was woven without a seam that the soldiers gambled for). Jesus then took a towel and girded Himself. After that He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.

When Jesus came to wash Peter's feet, Peter said unto Jesus, "Thou shalt never wash my feet". Peter felt Jesus was too great and he was too unworthy for Jesus to do such a thing for him.

Jesus answered Peter, "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me." What do you think Peter decided to do then? Peter said, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head." Jesus told Peter that it was only necessary to have his feet washed. Maybe we can get a lesson here too. We should not add to nor take away from God's Word. I think we can see that Peter did not want to be left out if it meant that he could have no part with Jesus. Jesus was his Master — his Saviour and his Lord.

After Jesus had washed the disciples's feet and had taken His garments and sat down again, He said unto them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me your Master and Lord and you say well; for so I am. If I then your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. The servant is not greater than his Lord... If you know these things, happy are you if you do them."

Does Jesus mean that His people should wash feet today? Listen to what Jesus says after He rose from the grave — just before He ascended up to Heaven. (Matt. 29:19-20) "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost: **TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS WHATSOEVER I HAVE COMMANDED YOU;** and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Jesus commanded His disciples to wash one another's feet. He also commanded them to teach all nations to observe all things that He had commanded them. Do you want a part with Jesus? There are many things Jesus commanded us to do and washing one another's feet is one of them.

Brother Rudy Cover



Friendship improves happiness, and abates misery, by doubling our joy, and dividing our grief. - Addison

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### Complaining

Many people today say they find it difficult to find a personal message in the Old Testament. They think that nothing there applies to them. If that is your feeling, possibly you have not read it in the Spirit of the Lord as you should have. A verse that has a great application to our everyday life is Numbers 11:1. It reads, "And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp."

God hates complaining! In fact, He sent a terrible fire to burn some of the tents of the Israelites as punishment for their complaining. Another time, He sent them poisonous snakes. He had parted the Red Sea so they could safely escape the Egyptians and slavery. He drowned Pharaoh's army in the same sea. He had given the Israelites bread from Heaven to eat every day. Yet, they complained.

We look very critically at these people and yet look what God has done for us. He has saved us from sin through our obedience to His only Son. He has given us the Bible. We have Christian friends who care about us, as well as much food, so much, in fact, that we have to watch our weight. Most of us have a selection of clothing so that we can't decide what to wear.

But we continue to complain. We complain about high taxes, the cost of living, America's leaders with whom we disagree, and even the weather. We complain because we have to go to school or because we can't, depending which situation we are in. We complain about food, about responsibilities and even about the church.

Every day, it is complaining. But complaining is sin and God hates it. This is hard to face because if we understand this, then we have to say, "If complaining is sin, then I'm a sinner!" Complaining is wrong and is not an attribute of the Godly person. We must stop it. It is a lack of trust in God and an affront to Him who has done so much for us.

Constant complaining can ruin your personality. Everyone tries to avoid a chronic complainer. Ask God to help you to become the positive person you should be and to help you to overcome the sin of complaining. You DON'T have the RIGHT to vent your feelings in this way. In Phil. 2:14 and 15, we learn that we are to "Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, and sons of God..." The challenge is yours. Your happiness is at stake as is your responsibility to please and obey God.

Brother Leonard Wertz



## REMEMBRANCE

We are not to be forgetful hearers of God's Word. We are to remember our Creator. Through our Creator we have the first command with promise, that it may be well with thee and long life. This command was renewed to us by Christ. Also reminded to us by the Apostle Paul, who also said obey your parents in all things, this is well pleasing unto God. I believe he had in mind Christian parents.

We that have been blessed with Christian parents can never fully repay the debt and gratitude we owe. We know it was their desire that we be faithful to the end. We should be thankful for all the blessings of God. Disobedience to Christian parents was the start to the falling away from the saving Gospel of Christ.

"Remember thy creator in the days of thy youth while the evil days come not nor the years draw nigh when they shall say I have no pleasure in them." Ecc. 12:1. It is an important matter that we all live Godly in Christ Jesus as we have no promise of tomorrow. We are living in a day when many professing Christians think they know a better way than our Christian foreparents. Through disobedience many have suffered hardships and a short stay here on earth. "This second epistle beloved I now write unto you in both which I stir up your pure minds by the way of remembrance." II Peter 3:1. We must not forget, but remember, what our Saviour has commanded for our salvation. He has taught by example and precept. Remember the way is open for our salvation. It is not God's will that any should perish, but all should come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved. "Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things though ye know them and be established in the present truth." II Peter 1:12.

Remember that which is the most important in life's pathway is our soul's salvation. We are not to be forgetful hearers but doers of the Word of God. Keep in remembrance the faithful of the old dispensation and Christ and the faithful, recorded in the New Testament. Also our faithful foreparents who came here and established Christianity on this American Continent. It is a great blessing, do we appreciate it as we should?

We can show our remembrance and appreciation by being faithful and true to the trust Christ left us. Are we pressing onward and forward toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus? The true Christians have a desire for the salvation of souls and are laboring for it. "I will therefore put you in remembrance though ye once knew this how that the Lord having saved the people out of the land of Egypt afterward destroyed them that believed not." Jude 1:5.

Remember to keep the way of truth and righteousness. If we



remember and have salvation we are obedient to God's Word. Remember we like our faithful foreparents need to take the way of the Cross that leads to the blessed eternal home of joy, peace and happiness.

Brother J. F. Marks  
Rt. 9 Box 860  
Plant City, FL

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

March 15, 1924

### **"THE WHITE COLLAR JOB"**

A. W. Zeigler

I read an article some time ago, that fit so well for which it was intended. I thought it fit equally as well to the Christian or the Spiritual side of life. The more I meditated on the spiritual side, the better I thought it fit. It was something like this: It has appeared to some observers that there is such a concerted rush of young people for what are called, "The White Collar Jobs", that it is becoming difficult to induce young men to take up trades, as there seemed to be a feeling that work, which involves the soiling of the hands or clothing was of a lower type than that carried on in lighted offices or over shining desks. The cause of the above rush was by an oversight or a mistake of the young people, and also many older ones. When the manufacturing industry was in its infancy the man at his trade, whatever line it was, started out with a small shop, and small equipment. Faithfully and earnestly, he kept hammering away, and building up his trade until it had increased so favorably that he had to hire men to attend to the labor part of the business. The proprietor had all he could do to take care of the office part of the work. Those were men of business, that made a success in life, for they were well equipped in every detail of the labor end of the enterprise, which also put them in a position to be well equipped in the leadership and business part of the industry. If they would have fitted themselves only for the White Collar Job through some institution of learning, so as to fill the office duties, they would likely have failed, as many have failed in the White Collar Job, not knowing anything about the mechanical part of the concern. In such procedure, what else could they expect but to fail, not being acquainted with all the details of the principal part of the work. Just so in the Spiritual side of life.

The church, when in its infancy started out earnestly and faithfully studying the word of God, and living it. As they lived it and practiced

what they preached, they built up congregation after congregation, spreading the good work, and holding to the discipline of the gospel of Christ and its teaching. But, as soon as they began to cater after worldly knowledge they began to rush for the White Collar Jobs. Right now they are just like the man is, in the financial part that was after the White Collar Job. He found out after going to the wall, he did not even have the smallest end of the business learned and had commenced at the wrong end of the business, and they think they have learned to tell the way of life to others, but have never lived it.

The only way to equip yourself to tell the story to others is to live it in every detail. When we start at this end of the spiritual life, we will not be looking for the White Collar Jobs. We have entirely too many of those fellows to support, that are so much better equipped to tell at least a part of the gospel, than they are to live it. This is one of the things that rob the worthy needy. I do not want to be understood that men can or should live on the wind. I believe the worthy should be well supported, but I also believe that if living on the wind would bring them to where they would be willing to preach the whole gospel, then at least try to live it, it would be a God's blessing for such to have to live on the wind until they are willing to accept the will of God. May God help us all to live his will, for there is no better way to tell it. I am so thankful for the Bible Monitor, and for all those good contributions that are contained in it. May God bless the Monitor people as long as they hold to all his truth.



The fortitude of the Christian consists in patience, not in enterprises which the poets call heroic and which are commonly the effects of interest, pride, and worldly honor. - Dryden



He that gives all, though but little gives much; because God looks not to the quantity of the gift, but to the quality of the givers.  
- Quarles

## OBITUARY

### JOSEPH GILPIN

Bro. Joseph A. Gilpin, 85, of Swanton, Maryland passed away January 12, 1984 at the Goodwill Mennonite Home. Born in Fairview, Maryland he was a son of the late Thomas Pierce Gilpin and Mary Jane (Fazenbaker) Gilpin. He was a member of the Broadwater Chapel Dunkard Church and has served as deacon of the church. He was a retired railroader.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Pauline (Carroll) Gilpin. He is survived by his second wife, Susie (Wisler) Gilpin; two sons, John Gilpin, Hancock, Maryland; Cecil Gilpin, Girard, Ohio; two daughters, Mrs. Frances Sweitzer, Mrs. Freda Rexroad, both of Swanton, Maryland; sixteen grandchildren; nineteen great-grandchildren, three sisters, Mrs. Myrtle Brotemarkle, Mrs. Louise Porter, Mrs. Maleta Butler and many other relatives and friends. One son preceded him in death.

Funeral services were conducted from the Newman Funeral Home in Grantsville, Maryland, Sunday at 2 o'clock with Bro. Eugene Kauffman and Bro. Paul Myers officiating. Interment was in Rhodes-Gilpin Cemetery.

#### His Precious Gift

One gift above all others  
God gives to us to treasure  
One that knows no time no place  
And one gold cannot measure.

The precious poignant tender gift  
Of memory that will keep  
Our dear ones ever in our heart  
Although God gives them sleep.

It brings back long remembered things  
A song, a word, a smile  
And our world's a better place  
Because we had them for awhile.

#### CARD OF THANKS

We are truly thankful and appreciate the kindness in every way our relatives, neighbors and friends did for us. Also for the cards and letters during Joe's long illness and in our bereavement. They meant so much. We pray the Lord will richly bless every one for their prayers and efforts.

The Gilpin family



## **MARRIAGE**

### **STAUFFER - KASZA**

Timothy E. Kasza, son of Bro. and Sis. Eugene Kasza and Mary Lou Stauffer, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Edwin Stauffer were united in holy matrimony at 4:00 p.m. on December 31, 1983 at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church, Lititz, Pennsylvania.

Bro. Allen Eberly conducted the ceremony and Bro. Rudy Shaffer had the sermon.

Their address is P.O. Box 102, Blackburn, Missouri 65321.

## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **NOTICE**

Please have all business for General Conference in my hands by April 15, 1984. Thank you.

Writing Clerk  
Brother Joseph E. Flora  
R. 3, Box 12  
Adel, Iowa 50003

### **PLEVNA, INDIANA**

The Lord willing, the Plevna Congregation will have Pre-Easter services April 18 through April 22. There will be a Lovefeast on April 21. Services begin at 2:00 p.m. with the Lovefeast at 7:30

Bro. Fred Pifer from Dallas Center, Iowa will be the speaker.

We invite all who can to come be with us for these meetings.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

### **A SPECIAL THANK YOU**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

We would like to say thank you for remembering us at the throne of grace during the most unwanted experience. With words we cannot express our regrets, sorrows and pain. It is over a year now, and the cut is still very deep. There will be another scar with us for life. Especially do we want to thank those of you who took the time to write letters, send cards and to call us, when one hardly knows how to express themselves. Your encouragement, concern and your love has meant so much. I Cor. 13 speaks of charity, the greatest of Christian virtues. God bless you.

We have to turn to God's Word in times like these. Many thoughts

have crossed our minds. God humbles us when we are proud. Whom He loveth He chasteneth. He tries our faith. Many words could be written concerning these things. We realize that many of you have had experiences also in life and that we are the least among you. The Lord allows accidents and troubles to come on us for various reasons.

May we trust Him always that His purpose might be fulfilled in us.

May the Lord bless you all.

Your Brother in Christ

David Kegerreis and family

#### APPRECIATION

Sister Margaret Marks was taken to the hospital for emergency treatment and was discharged in eight days. She is improving again. Your prayers are much appreciated.

Brother Joseph Marks

#### THANK YOU

I bring you many thanks for remembering me before the Throne of Grace, for many, many cards, flowers, gifts and many deeds of kindness and phone calls during my illness.

May our Lord bless each one of you.

Sister Hattie Bickelhaupt

#### A WORD OF THANKS

I want to thank all the Brethren and Sisters for their visits, cards, flowers and gifts, while I was in the hospital and since I have returned home. And also for the many prayers that were offered in my behalf. May God bless you all.

Sister Anna B. Johns

#### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The District Meeting of the Third District will be held at Grandview, the second Monday of April. Services will be held Saturday through Monday, April 7, 8 and 9.

The Lovefeast Service will be on Saturday evening with services through Sunday and District Meeting held on Monday.

Come and enjoy these services with us.

May God's Richest Blessings be with you all.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR APRIL, 1984 OF THE EARTH

Memory Verse: Neh. 9:6

Thou, even thou, art Lord alone,  
thou hast made heaven, the heaven  
of heavens, with all their host, the  
earth, and all things that are there-  
in, the seas, and all that is therein,  
and thou preservest them all; and  
the host of heaven worshippeth  
thee.

Sun. 1 - Ezra 5:1-17

Mon. 2 - Neh. 9:1-17

Tues. 3 - Neh. 9:18-38

Wed. 4 - Job 1:1-22

Thur. 5 - Job 2:1-13

Fri. 6 - Job 3:1-26

Sat. 7 - Job 5:1-27

Memory Verse: Job 8:9

(For we are but of yesterday, and  
know nothing, because our days  
upon earth are a shadow:)

Sun. 8 - Job 7:1-21

Mon. 9 - Job 8:1-22

Tues. 10 - Job 9:1-35

Wed. 11 - Job 11:1-20

Thur. 12 - Job 12:1-25

Fri. 13 - Job 14:1-22

Sat. 14 - Job 15:1-35

Memory Verse: Job 14:7-9

For there is hope of a tree, if it be  
cut down, that it will sprout again,  
and that the tender branch thereof  
will not cease. Though the root  
thereof wax old in the earth, and  
the stock thereof die in the ground;  
Yet through the scent of water it  
will bud, and bring forth boughs  
like a plant.

Sun. 15 - Job 16:1-22

Mon. 16 - Job 18:1-21

Tues. 17 - Job 19:1-29

Wed. 18 - Job 20:1-29

Thur. 19 - Job 22:1-30

Fri. 20 - Luke 23:13-56

Sat. 21 - Job 24:1-25

Memory Verse: Luke 24:25 & 26

Then he said unto them, O fools,  
and slow of heart to believe all that  
the prophets have spoken: Ought  
not Christ to have suffered these  
things, and to enter into his glory?

Sun. 22 - Luke 24:1-35

Mon. 23 - Job 26:1-14

Tues. 24 - Job 28:1-28

Wed. 25 - Job 30:1-31

Thur. 26 - Job 34:1-37

Fri. 27 - Job 35:1-16

Sat. 28 - Job 37:1-24

Memory Verse: Job 19:25

For I know that my redeemer liveth,  
and that he shall stand at the latter  
day upon the earth:

Sun. 29 - Job 38:1-21

Mon. 30 - Job 38:22-41

Memory Verses: Job 26:7

He stretcheth out the north over  
the empty place, and hangeth the  
earth upon nothing.

Job 35:10 & 11

But none saith, where is God my  
maker, who giveth songs in the  
night; Who teacheth us more than  
the beasts of the earth, and maketh  
us wiser than the fowls of heaven?

Job 38:4

Where wast thou when I laid the  
foundations of the earth? declare,  
if thou hast understanding.



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

APRIL 1, 1984

NO. 7

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## FOREVER SETTLED IN THE HEAVENS

Forever settled in the heav'ns  
Thy Word, O Lord, shall firmly stand;  
Thy faithfulness shall never fail,  
The earth abides at Thy command.

Thy word and works unmoved remain,  
Thy ev'ry purpose to fulfill;  
All things are Thine and Thee obey,  
And all as servants wait Thy will.

I should have perished in my woe  
Had not I loved Thy law divine;  
That law I never can forget,  
O save me, Lord, for I am Thine.

The wicked would destroy my soul,  
But on Thy truth I muse with awe;  
Imperfect I have found all else,  
But boundless is Thy wondrous law.

## THE BOOK

The Bible is the Word of God. Other books may be inspirational, informative or entertaining but not a one of them is the inspired Word of God. To support their philosophies and doctrines, men have produced many books that they have elevated to a place beside the Bible but no other book can be considered equal to God's Book.

Men can produce books that are helpful and uplifting but they can not produce a book that is the mind of God. The difference between good books and the Good Book is the inspiration of God. The books of the Bible were individually written over a long period of time by several different men in different languages. These men were of various occupations; some were highly educated while others were uneducated. Despite all of these disparities, the Bible is a compact unit. When books of the natural world are compared over a much shorter period of time and even without the other differences, there will be found much that is contradictory. Books written just a few decades ago are considered quaint and uninformative. The difference between the books produced by men in their own wisdom and the Book written by the Wisdom of God is the Holy Spirit's inspiration. As mortals, we cannot fully understand how God was able to inspire just what He wanted written. The writings thus produced are the Word of God, true and reliable in all matters. While these writings are all the dictation of God yet each man's personality and style are preserved. We can readily note the difference of Paul's style from Peter's, James' or John's. Even in the inspiration of writing of the Bible, God used men, with their individual styles and personalities. God still uses men as individuals to do His Will.

The inspiration of God is evident not only in its production but

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

APRIL 1, 1984

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also in its preservation. The Bible has been preserved through many periods of intellectual darkness and physical persecution.

While the Bible was produced over a long period of time, there has been no additions to it since Revelation. At the close of the Revelation a very serious warning is given. Nothing can be taken from the Word of God without paying the most severe penalty. Nothing may be added to God's complete Word without incurring a terrible punishment. There is no progressive revelation of God's Will. It is contained in what has been revealed to us in the Bible. To add to it or to take from it, either one, will bring to men sorrow and suffering. There is no man who can be teacher or counselor of God so no man can safely add to nor take from what God has given us. He has given us all that we need to prepare ourselves for life in this world and also for eternity. When we consider that our eternal destiny is tied to what we do with the Word of God, why would we want to change it?

There are many books written about the Bible. These books often become popular because the myth has been promoted by a professional clergy that an untrained membership cannot know what the Bible means. Therefore they and others produce books to supposedly point the reader to the correct understanding of the Bible. These books may be written with good intentions and a wish to edify but they can become a snare to their readers. The opinions and teachings of men may be promoted above what the Bible actually teaches. Commentaries, dictionaries and other study aids may lead people away from the study of the Bible into the study of men's books. The Bible is its own best commentary and interpreter. To truly study the Bible will require more effort than reading other men's books. We are admonished to be workmen who would not be ashamed but rather approved by God. The Bereans were commended for their studious efforts and it is doubtful that they depended upon commentaries and other books.

Biblical knowledge is not the private domain of professional ministers or theologians. The Bible was inspired by God's Holy Spirit. This same Spirit abides in each believer. Therefore each believer has the potential to read and study the Word of God and to correctly interpret it. Since that Spirit was sent after Jesus went away to bring all things to the believers remembrance, He will not lead in any way contrary to the Words of Jesus or any other part of the Bible. The Mind of God is the same whether revealed through the Father, the Son or the Spirit.

We do not need the philosophies and doctrines of men, when we have the Holy Spirit to teach us the Word of God. The doctrines and ordinances that are contained in the Bible are what we need, for God has placed them there for our benefit.

Have you read your Bible today? Have you prayed for the Holy



Spirit's guidance in your Bible study, today? Have you become a workman pleasing unto God?

## **JUNK FOOD**

The third chapter of II Timothy is a prophecy describing the last days of the Church Age. It is an accurate description of our nation today. Knowing we are living in the last days is important, but living in readiness and awareness of the return of Jesus Christ is what really counts.

Satan is using many tools of deception in these last days. As believers we must beware lest complacency and lukewarmness creep into our lives.

II Timothy 3:2 warns that in the last days men shall be lovers of their own selves. It is easy to list a whole page of ways that the world is fulfilling this scripture. Mankind is truly seeking to fulfill the desires of the flesh.

How about us as part of the church? Are we crucifying or satisfying the flesh? We need to look into the mirror of God's Word and take a long honest look at our lives.

How I surrendered my life to the Master? Is He truly LORD of my life? Do I daily present my body, mind, and will a living sacrifice to God? We need to remember we are not our own. We are bought with a price; the precious blood of Christ.

God created us for a purpose. That purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." I Cor. 10:31. Are we meeting the challenge of this verse? If not, why?

In Romans 12:1 and 2 Paul gives us a formula for Christian victory. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." For us to have a victory over sin in our lives we need a transforming of the heart and a renewing of the mind. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Prov. 23:7.

The saying is, "we are what we eat." We see a new awakening in our country prompted by the truth of the previous statement. Many Americans are suffering serious health problems because of a poor diet.

The term "junk food" is used to describe food that ranks high in taste appeal but low in nutritional value. It satisfies the appetite, but is of little value (and can even be harmful) to the body.

Just as physically we are what we eat, spiritually we are what we think. That which we take into our mind (via our eyes and ears)

ends up in our heart. As children of God we are the temple of the Holy Spirit. We need to take care lest we be guilty of temple neglect. No matter how strong we may be spiritually, we can never be our best for the Master if our body is failing because of improper food.

We have been warned by health authorities about the effect of poor nutrition on our physical bodies but have we taken time to consider the effect of "junk food" on our spiritual lives? Remember, we are what we "eat."

As Christians we are all aware of the struggle we face in our lives, the spirit against the flesh. Paul describes this inner conflict in Romans 7. We have two natures battling for dominance in our lives. We must remember that the nature we feed (whether old or new) will dominate our lives.

Many years ago the Church took a stand against going to movies, places of amusement, and having television in our homes. These are known to serve "devil's food." They are obvious poison. The pure heart will not desire them. But what about the junk food?

What is spiritual junk food? It could be anything that fills us but doesn't feed us. It doesn't provide for the needs of the soul.

The real danger of junk food is that it takes our appetite for good food, yea, the Bread of Life.

What about the things we read? Are they of value or just junk? There are many magazines finding their way into Christian homes. Many of them have little value of this life and certainly do nothing to feed our new.

How about the music we listen to? Does it appeal to our flesh or to our spirit? Music is powerful. It works on our emotions. It will stir us into action, either good or evil depending on who the "cook" was. Is it devil's food or manna from heaven? Do we listen to music for the message of the beat of the music?

What about the books we read? Most of the literature on the market today is either junk food or just plain GARBAGE! We need to be careful even in the area of "Christian literature." So much of this is seasoned with the "spice of modernism" and the social gospel.

Christian book stores are full of books about The Book. Even these can be "junk food." Any book (even if it is good) that takes our time and appetite for the Bible is "junk food." How can we know if the book about The Book is any good unless we know The Book?

Dear ones, there is only one book that God ever wrote. That is the Bible. It is the most pure, wholesome, and nutritious spiritual food we can feed our soul.

We call the Bible "a lamp to our feet and road map to heaven." Yet how many of us have read it through, even once, from cover

to cover? How can we defend or share the gospel if we don't even know it? In some parts of the world people are dying (physically) for a chance to read the Word, while many of our people are dying (spiritually) for the lack of reading it. It takes only about fifteen minutes a day to read through the Bible in a year. Is that too much time for God's Word?

As parents we must be careful to see that our children are feeding on the Bread of Life and not devil's food. Heb. 13:17 says we are to "watch for their soul." You can be sure Satan is watching your child's soul if you aren't. Don't let him take your child "out for supper."

The junk food on the market today is designed to cause us to crave for more. It takes self discipline to put it aside to partake of good wholesome food.

We also need great discipline to live the Christian life. We must be careful what we feed upon with our eyes and ears. Remember, we are what we eat.

May we say as Job, "I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food."

May God help us to hunger and thirst after righteousness.

Blessed Bible how I love it!  
How it doth my bosom cheer!  
What hath earth like this to covet?  
Oh, what stores of wealth are here.  
Man was lost and doomed to sorrow.  
Not one ray of light or bless  
Could he from earth's treasures borrow,  
Till his way was cheered by this.  
Yes, sweet Bible! I will hide thee  
Deep, yes, deeper in this heart.  
Thou, through all my life, will guide me  
And in death we will not part.  
Part in death! no, never, never!  
Through death's vale I'll lean on thee;  
Then in brigher world's forever  
Sweeter far thy truth shall be.

--William Beery

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## STICKS AND STONES

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me." You've probably heard this, and may partly believe it. But Prov. 11:9 says "A hypocrite with his mouth destroyeth his neighbor." In other places in His Word, we are told to put away evil speaking along with other unholy ways. The truth is, words can and do hurt, and God recognizes this.

Ecc. 3:7 says there is "a time to keep silence and a time to speak." The right thing said at the wrong time can do more harm than good. Feelings can be hurt, anger may flare, and a heart closes to the truth, all because someone -- you or me -- didn't have sense enough to choose the proper time to speak. Exercising patience in waiting for the proper time is hard, but it's even harder to live with the knowledge that you destroyed your opportunity by being hasty.

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice." Eph. 4:31. Evil speaking frequently stems from our irritation with someone. We may merely be impatient with him or her, or we may be angry and have a deeper desire to injure and cause pain. Whatever the problem is, speaking evil will not solve it, even if what you say is the truth.

"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary." Isa. 50:4a. Evil speaking brings discouragement, but kind words spoken at the right time can bring encouragement. Anyone can say evil and mean things, but it takes someone with God-given understanding to encourage and uplift.

"If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain." Jas. 1:26. Being very religious will not compensate for a lack of self-control in speaking. Careless speech, evil speech, falsely-pious speech will not fool anyone except the person speaking. Especially it will not fool God, for He has already said such a person's religion is vain, or worthless. No amount of fancy talk can cover up shallowness in one's own spiritual life.

"For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." Jas. 3:2. A man who is able to control his tongue, who knows to say the right thing at the right time, has the rest of his life under control also. His thought-life, his speech and his actions are right before God -- why? Because he is under God's control.

"Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." Col. 4:6. Grace is God-given, it is unmerited favor. It is also the strength and

ability to do in life what God wants done. His grace shows us how to answer others, how to admonish and encourage, how to share our faith without being offensive. Speech without grace will just be unsavory, unkind -- and rejected by those who hear.

"Whoso privily slandereth his neighbor, him will I cut off." *Psa. 101:5a*. Slander is evil-speaking about another, saying things to damage his or her reputation. Privily means privately or in secret. Another term for this is backbiting, and it is evidence of evil in the heart. No matter how careful you may be to conceal your evil intentions, God sees you and will deal with you accordingly.

"Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones." *Prov. 16:24*. The sticks and stones in the rhyme were used to hurt someone physically. Harsh words hurt also, and bring emotional pain and discouragement. What a contrast between such words and pleasant ones! The pleasant words are sweet and good and healing. Words can hurt or they can heal; make yours the healing kind.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

### **"MYTHS ABOUT JESUS CHRIST"**

In a recent church publication the following words appeared in the editorial page. "The Gospels were not written until many years after Jesus' death. His life, His sayings were remembered, and passed on by word of mouth. By the time the Gospels were written, the 'facts' were no longer consistently recalled; . . ." "What we have preserved in the Gospels is a myth, in a sense. But the myth is all we need."

This type of thinking is popular in the vast majority of Christian (by name) circles today. Let us be very emphatic in stating, **THERE IS NO JESUS MYTH** as suggested by these teachers! Let us quote one more sentence from this editorial: "The Jesus myth leaves us jubilant with happiness." Since they deny that the Bible is the Word of God, they are not impressed with the facts recorded there which make their theory to be completely false. This article is written to warn those who do accept the Bible as the Word of God to beware of these false teachers.

In *John 14:26* we read, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, **AND BRING ALL THINGS TO YOUR REMEMBRANCE, WHATSOEVER I HAVE SAID UNTO YOU.**" Therefore, contrary to these false teachers, the New Testament (or the Bible for that matter) was not written from the mere memory of men, but was written through the power of the Holy Ghost, the third person of the Trinity! As we read in *II Timothy 3:16* "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, . . ."



Since these false teachers do not accept the Bible as the Word of God, they do not accept Jesus Christ as Lord, (though they do so by mouth.) Consequently, they arrive at their own "myths about Jesus." Strangely enough, some who do accept the Bible as the Word of God also have some "myths about Jesus" they propagate. Let us now look at some of these "myths about Jesus."

One of these "myths about Jesus" is that He taught political peace as salvation. Another closely related "myth" is that He taught that unsaved can live in peace with each other. John 18:36 states "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence."

Another of these "myths about Jesus" is that He taught love without responsibility. A closely related "myth" is that He taught freedom from commandments. In John 14:15 we read, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." And in Luke 6:46 we read, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" Also in I Corinthians 13:6 (remember Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, "spoke" these words also) we read, (Charity, or love) "Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth."

A popular "myth about Jesus" (among those who do accept the Bible as the Word of God) is that He taught unconditional eternal security. We have dealt with this issue in length and will not take the time and space to go into great detail. Let us look at one passage of scripture, a favorite of "unconditional eternal security" teachers. John 10:27-28. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they FOLLOW ME: and I give unto them eternal life: and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." We believe in "eternal security" (though we do not use these words because of their mis-application) as these verses teach it! If we FOLLOW Christ we are secure and no man can pluck us out of His hand.

A "myth about Jesus" which is gaining many followers is that He never spoke out in favor of heterosexuality (thus against homosexuality). We would again remind you that all of the New Testament was "spoken" by Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. In addition to this fact, in Mark 10:6 we read, "But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female."

One of the favorite "myths about Jesus" among the cults, and gaining acceptance among the liberals, is that Jesus Christ arose a spirit being. Luke 24:39 (after His resurrection) Jesus states, "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have."

The final "myth about Jesus Christ" we would like to look at is



the myth that He never claimed to be God. In John 8:24 we read, "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." In verse 27 we find that Jesus was referring to the Father. This verse does not deny the Holy Trinity, as the "Jesus Only" teachers proclaim. But it does prove that Jesus Christ was God.

If you have been lead astray by a "Jesus myth" we urge you to reject it for the true and living Lord. If you have never accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior we invite you to do so today. Repent and be baptized by immersion then live the life of holiness, as the Spirit enables you to. (You will never be "perfect" in this life, except through Jesus Christ.)

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch Street  
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## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **LACKING LOVE**

Luke 6 contains a discussion about lacking in love. We read in verse 33, "And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same." How many times have we heard a fellow Christian say, "I just can't stand that person." "That brother gives me the creeps." "He would do the church a lot of good if he'd just get out." These are serious statements. Have YOU ever said or thought things like that? People show a great lack of love toward others for many reasons: they sing off-key, they are too friendly, they aren't friendly enough, they are not as spiritual as I am . . . and so forth. Sometimes we try to sound good by saying, "I love her, but I don't like her" or "I'd sure love him if he wasn't so radical!"

Jesus commands us to love one another unconditionally. . . "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12. Jesus loved each of us enough to die for us while we were still sinners, deserving nothing from Him. If you say you hate someone and God says you should love her, you cannot just pretend love or you are a hypocrite. You CAN love someone whom you don't think you can because God will give you the power if you totally turn the problem over to Him. You need to learn to apologize and to make right the problem which exists. If you can't do this, you will also have no fellowship with Christ. You see, to be on the outs with a brother or sister is to be on the outs with God . . . and that is very serious. If you obey God's command to show love, sooner or later the right emotions will follow.

The ultimate weapon against an enemy is prayer. God commands us to pray for our enemies. If you sincerely and constantly pray for those who seem to be your enemies, something exciting will happen. For instance, you can't very well hate and pray at the same time. If you continue to pray, God will miraculously give you love for those who have wronged you. Also, God will work in their lives, and they will begin to notice that in spite of what they have done, you love them. Now, the other person might not necessarily stop hating you. In fact, he may feel so guilty that he will treat you even worse. But God will use your actions to advertise what it is to be a Christian and you will fulfill your responsibility.

If you as a Christian do not love your enemies, you are no different from the world. God has made "love your enemies" kind of love available to all of us. It is genuine, it is sacrificial, and it is absolutely a must. Satan's lie is to tell you that you do not need to make restitution with your enemy. But remember, God says you must and He loves that person just as much as He does you. Who will you follow? Will you continue in your lack of love or will you change and live God's way? There can only be one answer. Make it the right one!

Brother Leonard Wertz

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

April 1, 1924

### **IS THE WORLD GROWING BETTER?**

Reuben R. Shroyer

By the expression world, we do not mean the material world, but the human family. It is said God so loved the world that he gave his well beloved SON. That expression world means the human family of course.

The world certainly is growing better, in quick communication, in quick transportation, in agriculture, in philanthropics, but who will dare say the world is growing better in Holiness, in purity, and a greater anxiety to do the will of the Father in Heaven.

Adam started good. He was pronounced good by his creator. (Gen. 1:31) Did he stay good? How about his descendants?

Well, we know they grew worse, and God declared that all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth, and God said behold I will destroy them with the earth. (Gen. 5:12-13). For two thousand years it's clear then that man didn't grow better, but worse. God didn't destroy them because they grew better, just the opposite.

Noah, a righteous man and his family were saved. They repopulated the earth. They were good, did his descendants stay



good? How wonderfully God made known to these people his will! How he dealt with them, leading them, making a great nation of his people and yet the Jews, God's chosen people, rejected Christ. Yes, the best people living then did crucify the Lord. So it's clear the next two thousand years the human family didn't grow better. How about the trend since Christ's advent? Jesus taught, he lived among men, set the finest example, established his church, sent out his disciples to preach the Gospel after his ascension into heaven. The Holy Spirit was given to aid in the work assigned his disciples and a wonderful work started to make the world better. I am glad it's possible for us to grow better, but are the masses growing that way? Well, the fore knowledge of God, no one can question, and God has spoken in his word along this line. Let's see what he says.

The disciples were faithful. They preached the gospel, churches were established, in fact, the first century they were able to carry the gospel to the entire civilized world. They needed no boards to finance them or throw out inducements for them to go. The Holy Spirit prompted them and they just couldn't do otherwise than to go. Over in Asia Minor seven churches were established. They flourished for a time, started good, but finally lost out. The reader can read the cause in the book. They just drifted away from their teaching they received and are no more. A warning to us proves what will happen when we drift away from the teaching of the word.

We call Paul on the witness stand and ask him whether or not the world grows better. "And he spoke by inspiration." This is his reply: "But know this, that in the last days, grievous times shall come, for men shall be lovers of self." II Tim. 3. That is men will work for self interest. How clear that is seen in these present days. Same verse he says, "Men will be lovers of money." MONEY, MONEY is sought. What a wonderful hold money has on people of today.

Boastful, proud railers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, implacable, slanders without self control, fierce, no lovers of good, traitors, headstrong, puffed up, lovers of pleasure, rather than lovers of God." Are these conditions clearly seen today? Not a better condition, no, but worse. The doctrine that the world grows better is not taught in God's word. Over in verse 13 Paul says, "but evil men and imposters shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." That's clear cut and ought to settle the question absolutely. But we inquire more of Paul. II Tim. 4:3, he says, "for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own



lusts, and will turn away their ears from the truth, and turn aside unto fables." Such condition surely is not for the better. We see that worked out today. A worldly church will hire a worldly pastor. Such churches will seek a teacher after their own lust. That's a reason why the pastor business is not for the best. I feel no better lever can be put in the hands of the devil (by which he can do more mischief) than a worldly preacher serving a worldly church; he can make foul look clean, and error seem right.

I Tim. 4, Paul says, "But the Spirit saith expressly that in the later times some shall fall away from the faith."

Jesus raised this question: "When the Son of man cometh will he find faith on the earth?" The language implies real genuine faith will be about gone. II Thess. 2nd chapter, Paul when speaking of Christ's return says, "It will not be except the falling away come first." Falling away from what? Why the FAITH. Paul declared he kept the faith. "The faith once delivered unto the Saints." See the definite article "the". One can especially see the falling away from the faith. Those conditions are on us. Of course not for the better. I heard a very prominent brother make the statement when the Inter World Church Movement was on the go, "If the amount of money was forwarded asked for, the world could be converted in two years." I just wonder where the book teaches the world ever will be converted.

Since 1914 more than ten thousand Protestant churches have closed up in the United States. There are approximately 110 million population here. 63 million make no pretensions religiously. I wonder how about the nominal church members. Over 7 million young men never darken the door of a church. About 7 million children never seen in Sunday School.

What's the trouble. The church has compromised with the world and is losing out. There was a time when the world courted the church. It looks now as though the courting time is over and the marriage effected and they are now spending their honeymoon. A remnant will remain faithful. Will we be of that number?



Life is to be fortified by many friendships. To love and to be loved is the greatest happiness of existence. - Sydney Smith



Men call fretting a minor fault — a foible and not a vice. But there is no vice except drunkenness which can so utterly destroy the peace and happiness of a home. - Helen Hunt

## LIFE'S PATHS

As I travel over life's path  
Toward that eternal - heavenly goal,  
Many intersections I walk past  
For they will lead me away from my goal.  
Carefully I must watch  
Each step that I am taking  
So that I do not fall from my goal.

The path in which I walk  
Narrow it may be, overgrown with briers,  
Stumbling stones under my feet.  
For this path is not used by many  
Making each branch off my path  
Look so comfortable and facile.

I have the choice to walk a path,  
Either one has a goal  
Turning to the left or right  
Maybe luxury right now  
But what will my eternal destiny hold  
A burning pit of fiery Hell  
Or a glorious, golden Heavenly City.

I've chosen this narrow path  
For I've been given a promise  
Of a city no man can comprehend.  
This path may be hard to follow  
But as I walk it with my God  
He will pick me up after falling  
Guiding me through this narrow way.

If I continue to look ahead  
My Savior, I know, He will guide me  
When my eyes, I keep on Him  
For at the end of my pathway  
I see my golden Heavenly Home  
That cannot be seen  
If I turned to the paths of sin.

Sister Mabel L. Sweitzer

## NEWS ITEMS

### McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Lord willing, the McClave Colorado Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church will hold their Spring Lovefeast, April 28 and 29, 1984. Services will start at 11:00 Saturday, April 28. Lovefeast at 7:30 P.M.

We invite all who can, to come enjoy these meetings with us. Please come.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

### PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

Although our Spring Lovefeast is a fixed date, we extend a special invitation to all who can enjoy these services with us on April 28 and 29. At this time and always, may we remember each other in prayer and with love.

Sister Edith Moss, Cor.

### WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation plans an all day service with Lovefeast in the evening on May 6. We invite all who can to come and enjoy this service with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

### THANKS

I wish to thank all the Brethren and Sisters and kind Christian friends for the cards, gifts, telephone calls and remembrances on my eightieth birthday.

May God richly bless each and every one.

Elder Paul R. Myers



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

APRIL 15, 1984

NO. 8

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## AN EASTER THOUGHT

I walked among the graves, and there alone,  
I scanned the Epitaphs upon each stone, —  
Men's names, their deeds, and dates of death and birth;  
"Can this be man!" I said, "the lord of Earth!"  
Yes, this is man, his lordship here doth cease,  
The words proclaim it. May he rest in peace."

I stood upon a hill, at Jesus' tomb,  
I saw no epitaph — for there was none;  
The Eastern Angel spoke it: "Do not fear,  
See Him in Galilee; He is not here,  
He's risen, He is risen, as He said."  
You cannot find the living 'mong the dead.

'Why this?' I asked, and answered with a sigh: —  
"All men are mortal and all men must die;  
And Christ, being man, did lie beneath the sod,  
But Christ arose again, for He is God."  
There in our graves we, too, shall lie, alone,  
Till Christ shall lift us up and take us home.

## RESURRECTION

To our human minds death is so final and permanent. When a loved one dies, only the body is left for us to see and respectfully return to the earth. The spirit has fled. There will be no more conversations. There will be no more pleasant times of fellowship. There will be no more times of sharing and loving. So death seems sinister and unyielding.

Yet even death must yield to the almighty power of God. While it is so permanent in our understanding, it cannot resist the power of God. During Jesus' ministry, it is recorded that He reversed the finality of death and restored life three times. He raised the daughter of Jairus from her deathbed. He raised the widow's son from his funeral bier. He at last raised Lazarus from the grave after he had been dead for four days. In each case death was overcome by the power of God.

These deaths had been caused by disease. When Jesus died on the cross, His body had been so abused and afflicted that He was beyond recognition. His hands and feet had been pierced with the nails that held Him to the cross. His brow was bloodied by the thorns and His side had been riven by the spear. Yet three days later He came forth from the grave. It is His resurrection that we commemorate at this Easter season.

His resurrection differed from those three He raised to life. His resurrection bespoke the acceptance by the Father of the Son's sacrifice. It also demonstrated His power over the Enemy. He could overcome death, Hell and the grave.

The Easter holiday has been established to commemorate this great event, but much of heathenism and nature worship has been combined with it that there is little sacred about the day. Since that first Easter was on the first day of the week, every Sunday is in

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

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essence an anniversary of Christ's resurrection. As the Lord's day is the first day of the week so He should have first call upon our love and service, not just once a week but daily.

His resurrection is closely tied to the plan of salvation. Without His death on the cross and His resurrection in victory, we could have no hope of salvation. We could not save ourselves for we would be unable to wash away our sins. But His sacrifice and His triumph over death gives us a way to overcome the death sentence brought upon us by our sins. Since all are guilty of sin, all must have contact with His cleansing blood and His newness of life. This operation is neatly pictured in the ordinance of baptism.

The baptismal waters represent death, for it would be an easy matter to drown in those waters, just as our sins choke our life. The forward bowing in baptism speaks of Christ bowing His head and giving up the Ghost on the cross. He could not bow backwards due to the top of the cross behind His head. As we are plunged beneath the water three times in representation of the three persons of the Trinity, we are putting the old man of sin to death. Since obviously we still have physical life, what is to replace that old sinful nature lately put to death? While baptized in the likeness of His death, we come forth from that service in newness of life like He came forth from that grave. With the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, that new life is within the baptized believer. With the darkness of sin replaced by the light of Christ's Gospel, our lives are changed so they are no longer lived to please self and Satan. Having our souls cleansed of sins and our minds transformed we are a new creature in Christ Jesus. We have been changed through the representation of His death, burial and resurrection.

Our identification with His resurrection does not end with the beginning of our Christian life. It is further identified at the very end of our earthly journey. When our physical life is taken from us, we can look forward to our own resurrection. The physical body is corruptible. As our journey on earth lengthens the body grows weaker. Finally death takes its toll. But the Christian has a great change, the corruptible earthly body is exchanged for an eternal uncorruptible body. A Heavenly Home awaits those so changed.

Jesus' resurrection is important to us. It is far more important than an earthly holiday badly corrupted by paganism. It is in essence our eternal life for without His resurrection we could do nothing to save ourselves. But with His resurrection we can be identified with Him through believer's baptism so we can have a new life. Living a new life will prepare us for our own resurrection when we exchange time for eternity.

Think not of Easter but of His resurrection.

## JOY IN THE MORNING

"And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto him." Matt. 27:55. It was a sad group there as they observed the Crucifixion of Jesus. Just a short time before this, they were fellowshiping together. Now, within a few brief hours, He had been tried and condemned to a shameful death on a cross. What did all this mean? It looked as though this was the end for Jesus and the end of their hopes as well.

Jesus had told the disciples what was to be, but they didn't understand (see Luke 18:31-33). Luke 24:7 says, "The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again." This came as a reminder from the angels who were at the sepulchre after Jesus' resurrection. Jesus had informed the disciples, but they couldn't grasp the meaning until sometime after the events had transpired.

Everything happened as it was supposed to — God saw to that. Not one detail was omitted. While the two disciples were on the road to Emmaus, Jesus walked with them and reminded them of what the scriptures said. Even though they already knew all these things, it was beyond their comprehension until Jesus opened to them the scriptures. See Luke 24:25-32. Like them, we also need Jesus to reveal His Word to us, and until He does, we cannot understand what His life, death and resurrection can mean to us.

"And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy: and did run to bring his disciples word." Matt. 28:8. The same women who were saddened by the Crucifixion were now gladdened by Jesus' Resurrection. They had come to the sepulchre very early in the morning, intending to complete the burial preparations. However, their plans were changed and they left with joy in their hearts because Jesus had risen. This Resurrection joy did not stop here, but has continued on down through the years in the hearts of all who believed in Christ and His power to save.

These women were no doubt filled with a mixture of emotions that morning — surprise, joy, fear and whatever else one would feel at such a time. The angels told them to go quickly and share the news, which they did. It was a sad procession when they came, but a joyous one when they left. Like excited children, they ran to give the disciples the good news. We, too, can share this good news, and it will bring joy to those who receive it.

"And while they yet believed not for joy . . ." Luke 24:4. Human minds could not comprehend what had happened. As we would say, it seemed too good to be true to think that Jesus was alive!



Hadn't they seen him crucified and placed in the tomb? But it was true, He was alive, and eventually they were able to understand this. John 20:9 says, "For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead." Even though they were not able to understand this at first, when they did, I'm sure their joy increased.

"And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Luke 24:52. Doubt was replaced by faith, sadness by overwhelming joy as their understanding increased. Jesus came specifically to die for us so we could be saved. He came to give life and joy to those who believed in Him. We can have this same joy always, not just in the morning. New joy and a new life in Christ can be yours — will you accept it now?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### COMPROMISE

Dear young person and adult alike, as fellow Christians in these last days, we must cleanse ourselves and the church of compromise. It is such a part of our society, that we seldom are aware of it. Take a good look at yourself. Do you profess to honor the integrity of the family, yet do things that pull it apart? Have you ever "permanently borrowed" something from work, rationalizing that they owed it to you? Have you disregarded the law because you thought no one would ever find out? Do some severe self evaluation. Just how commonplace is compromise in your daily life. Think back to each situation. Was there a selfish consideration that allowed you to eliminate the principles of Christ and the church? Did you think that God was not concerned or possibly was not able to meet the real need at hand? There was recent case of a man who found a sack containing forty-five thousand dollars on a city bench. He turned it in to the authorities saying that he did so because he had been born again. That was the showing of a true uncompromising character. What would you have done?

Men are compromising because they desire to please themselves rather than God. They will leave the teaching of Christ and the church behind for the sake of convenience or personal dissatisfaction with that particular teaching. May God forgive our arrogance and haughty will.

Look at your life. Has your worship or service to God been hindered because you have compromised biblical principles? If you are finding a battle raging in your life for allegiance, you need to fall on your knees before God and ask for strength to overcome



the compromise. Maybe your devotion to the world is greater than to God. If so, confess that to Him and spend time building your faith in Him so your devotion and obedience might increase.

Do you remember a time when the Holy Spirit had to warn you several times before you "got the message?" Why were you so oblivious to the earlier warnings? Because of selfishness or pride? Pray for the power to overcome that compromise and praise God for His abundant grace and patience as He continues to mold you into a vessel of honor.

The Pharisees were seeking to kill Jesus because He challenged their convictions in Mark 3:1-6. This is how far people will go to defend their own actions . . . even if they are deadly wrong.

We MUST NOT allow compromise in the church. It is our duty to guard the teachings with all of our being. Paul exhorts us to be alert and sober in I Thess. 5. You may hold fast to the teachings in unashamed boldness. I challenge you to stand firm even in the face of critics who would like to take the "easy road" in their walk with Christ. Stand on the promise that your unswerving character will be blessed by God. You have been called to a life with an uncommon standard. As you set forth your unblemished faith, even though the hindrance of compromise may persist, you will receive an unmeasurable blessing for staying true to your baptismal vows.

Brother Leonard Wertz



That is a choice friend who conceals our faults from the view of others, and discovers them to our own. - Secker



A true friend is the gift of God, and he only who made hearts can unite them. - South



The loss of a friend is like that of a limb; time may heal the anguish of the wound, but the loss cannot be repaired. - Southey

## TOTEM POLE RELIGION

John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me."

In a previous article printed in Bible Monitor we mentioned the fact that a totem pole was erected at a worship service during a World Council of Churches assembly. We stated that, according to reliable sources, this totem pole was in recognition of the "evolution of religion." We explained that this was the ultimate lie from Satan. That in actuality it taught that God did not create man, but that man "created" God! We have felt led of the Spirit to give some further thoughts on this subject.

One of the greatest hindrances to sharing the truth of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ is the liberal element within the earthly church. They have convinced many individuals that to state that Jesus Christ is the ONLY way to salvation is a form of bigotry! They twist facts and statements to create the illusion that those dedicated to the only means of salvation God has given unto man are not tolerant of others and have a lack of love. As an example of this, when it is pointed out that a totem is a symbol of pagan religion, the liberal element will argue that totem poles are not "gods" that are worshipped. While this statement is true in itself, totem poles ARE symbols of pagan religion. The American Indian had a mixture of ancestor worship and worship of nature known as Animism. In the book "Religions in a Changing World", from Moody Press the definition of Animism is given thusly. "The Animist knows of no greater misfortune than to die without descendants, for such an one has nobody who feels bound to serve and honour him after his death. The dead demands, with the instinct of self-preservation, that the living honour him; and he compels them to do so by afflicting them. Ancestors are honored because one's own well-being is dependent on them."-Warneck. Another definition given is, "Animism may be simply defined as "spirit worship." And it is applied to the most primitive forms of religion. Tribes involved in Animism have not learned to assign human or animal forms to their gods, but rather view them as spirits inhabiting stones, trees, water, the hills, and the air around themselves and the sky above. Conscious life is ascribed to all natural objects. Animists also believe in the continued existence of the human soul after death and in the activity of the soul in the disembodied state around the area where the person spent his earthly life. Therefore Animism comes to involve ancestor worship, as well as fetishism and magic." Now compare this with the dictionary definition of "totem" i.e. "Totem Pole." "An object serving as the emblem of a family or clan and often as a reminder of its ancestry." We feel quite sure that the missionaries to the American Indians will find this to be an accurate description of the

ancient Indian religious practice, with perhaps a minor difference concerning "animal worship."

While it is true that some fanatical groups would limit salvation to the "white race" (which does not really exist) or at least give them a superior position, true Christians realize this is complete foolishness. But we also realize that no matter what the color of the skin or who their ancestors were, there is only one means of salvation. We cannot "mix and match" religions to suit others. Roman Catholicism has done this down through the years and made their already false religion to be pagan in many countries.

The conservative Christian movement must also be careful of "ancestors worship." While it is certainly not wrong to learn what our Brethren ancestors believed, what we PRACTICE must be OUR convictions based on the Word of God. Otherwise WE will be guilty of ancestor worship. On the other hand, let us not allow "fundamentalists" and other evangelicals to do away with scriptural teachings just because they are not observed by the majority of Christianity. It is also wrong to follow the teachings of Calvin, Luther, Scofield, and so forth as they are not true to the Word of God. We feel this type of "ancestor worship" has had an effect on many within the once "plain" churches as well as on those who still observe the "plain way of life."

While we appreciate the freedoms we have in America, we must realize that the flag is another type of totem pole. We feel it has no place in a meeting house and should not be "bowed down to." Many Christian leaders are putting the pressure on those of the earthly church to get involved in politics to preserve the "Christian heritage of America." America was not founded on the Bible and we feel it is not wise for Christians to get involved in politics. We can do far more good by telling others of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus taught that His Kingdom was not of this world. (John 18:36)

Let us be careful that we do not allow the opinions of man to cause us to compromise the truths of scripture. We must show love towards all mankind, but this does not mean "accepting everyone where they are no matter what they believe." If we truly love others we will share the salvation message of Jesus Christ with them. We will also hold to the many times unpopular truths of scripture.

If you are not a follower of Jesus Christ we would remind you that He said in Mark 16:16, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Won't you accept Him as your Lord and Savior today?

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078



## DO WE LACK COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING

What does compassion mean? Pity for suffering with desire to help or to spare, sympathy. Many of us, who don't want to be bothered, do our own thing at all times. When we see someone doing for another, are we pleased or does it make us feel guilty? Then do we use Satan's most valuable tool, the wedge, and put a division, make heartache and pieces instead of peace? Oh, where is our compassion? Can we have true compassion without ourselves suffering? We change our attitude when we are likewise tested.

Anyone showing any feeling, love and affection are told, "You're spoiling them." Showing compassion, "You're too soft." Could it be we who make these remarks lack the ability to show affection and compassion with sincerity and understanding? Sometimes we who are not of the affectionate nature will show an unusual amount of attention to someone when we are wanting our way in the material line. Is this like Jesus would do? Honoring thy father and mother is disguised in material greed. Are we walking in His steps? Matthew 26:41, "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Could it be our enemies at one time will have compassion more than brethren? The human race lets us down. We are all a part of this. As the Samaritan had compassion on the man who fell among robbers. Luke 10:30-35. The priest and Levite passed on the other side. We assume they were good men but where was their compassion?

Some of us receive the call and answer to care for loved ones, while those not answering tell you, "You can't do it forever." No, because Jesus will come before then. Will He find us mumbling and grumbling, pushing an already heavily burdened soul down? Or giving thanks and showing compassion and understanding? We can be sincerely changed, you know, if we seek it. Could it be the burdened soul is stronger because they depend on the Lord to give them what they need to carry on? Matthew 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and prophets." Things done in this life look different from the inside out, than outside in. Do we help someone for honor of man and material gain? God forbid. It isn't good for us to have our way always. We become dominate and selfish, demanding more.

So we must lean and look to the living God. We think we are strong and give advice, but when we are tried we find it differently and become silent. We didn't know as much as we thought. If we

have compassion and understanding, will we be quick to pass opinions and take sides? Matthew 25:40. "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Jesus was born with compassion for mankind. Is that how we get it? Romans 9:15-16, "For he sayeth unto Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy."

Understanding, wisdom, we ask God for it. In faith believing we do receive but do we want to believe? We shut our minds to what we don't want to hear. How much of our heart is in what we ask for and do? Must we lose our sight, hearing, sense of smell, sense of feeling, unable to talk normal, or walk normal, suffer loss or have much heartache in order that we have compassion and understanding? We refer to those who are unable to see, hear, smell, feel, with a speech impediment, or walk unusual, or what have you, as retarded. God has given each a talent they can do better than others, and they are happy and cheerful with what they can do. Are we handicapped with too many blessings? We grumble and complain alot on what we can't do or don't have. Hebrews 13:5, "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have; for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." We humans have a way of looking at someone and passing opinion. Man looks on the outside. The Lord looks on the heart. Where is our compassion and understanding? Does anyone know we have a heart by what we say and do?

Sister Martha I. Harman

## **REUNION IN HEAVEN**

We are approaching the time of the year when many will gather for family reunions. Usually they take place at some park or playground. This may be a good practice if the gathering is in the name of the Lord. It is more important to be prepared for the great reunion where the redeemed, those who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb of God, get home.

Most of us have heard of close relatives who were separated for a long time. When they came together there was much gladness, joy and happiness for them. Today we can look forward to the day of all days when the world shall be judged and the righteous shall shine like the stars in the sky. May we be among those who shall live and abide at the Saviour's right hand.

Our Saviour has told us, "Lo, I go to prepare a place for you, I am coming again to receive you that where I am ye may be also." He is referring to His faithful servants. In His Word we are also told of His unexpected coming and of the great separation in the day of all days when the world will be judged. Those who have not cleansed themselves from the marks of iniquity will meet with disappointment.

Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Gatherings and reunions in this land of ours, called America the beautiful, cannot be compared to the reunion in Heaven. Among the gathering will be great, faithful servants of God who lived on the earth thousands of years ago and are recorded in God's Holy Word, and also our blessed Saviour who suffered and died for our salvation. His faithful followers are going forward and never laying their armour down looking forward to the Crown of righteousness at the end of life's pathway. The way of truth and righteousness leads to the eternal home of Glory through the saving Gospel of Christ. We can find that way to the home of love and peace and joy.

Most of us who have passed the three score and ten mark know of many who have passed beyond this vale of tears. When looking at and reading Bible Monitors that have been printed many years ago, we find many obituaries and most of the contributors to the paper are not here now. Their earthly life is past. This reminds us again we have no continuing city here. We have the privilege to seek the one to come. When our life's work is past only what we have done for eternity will last.

Here in this world relatives who have love for each other and are separated for a long time desire to be together again and rejoice. Are we prepared to come forth in the first and best resurrection so we can share in the reunion when all redeemed sinners get home?

John the Revelator gives us a description of the great eternal city. Will we share in the glory and reunion in that City where "eye has not seen, ear has not heard, neither has entered the heart of man the things that God has prepared for those that love him."

Brother J. F. Marks  
Rt. 9, Box 860  
Plant City, FLA



There is a strength of quiet endurance as significant of courage as the most daring feats of prowess. - Tuckerman



## SIXTY YEARS AGO

April 15, 1924

### THE CHURCH IN THE EARLY DAYS

Grant Mahan

There is a tendency among men to think and speak of "the good old times," as if there had been at that time no trials to meet, no enemies to conquer, no rough road in the Master's service. But it was far from being as persons are prone to thing. Human nature in the early ages of the church was not materially different from the human nature of today. No doubt followers of Christ then had to meet some trials which they do not now; and followers of today have some to meet which did not exist in those early days.

Discussing conditions in the early church, one writer on church history said: "The old landmarks betwixt the church and the world were undergoing a gradual but visible removal. The believer and the infidel had, in the innocent customs of society, — in dress, in fashion, in amusements, in social freedom, — an amount of common ground which was every day enlarging, and which, by a convenient distinction between precepts of obligation and counsels of perfection, might admit of such an extension as to make Christian and heathen ethics substantially the same. In morals, as in doctrine, the apostolic ship was much covered by the waves; the apostolic net had many rents in it."

And a little farther on we read: "Church rulers were despised, church laws set at naught. Mixed marriages were common. Matrons gave themselves to wordly cares and pleasures; and to please their husbands became extravagant in dress and lukewarm in religion. Heathen shows and feasts were frequented with little scruple. Catechumens put off their baptism that they might be more free to sin. The church's pensioners, the poor, were grudgingly supported. The pious fervor which good men had really felt, and which hypocrites had found it necessary to feign as a tribute to religion, was beginning to die out; and faith was sinking into a profound and ill-omened slumber."

Still farther along, when summing up the first three centuries of the Christian era, the same writer says: "The perfect fruit of the period, its peculiar and supernatural grace, was that of non-resistance to oppression. Nor was this virtue a mere softness on the part of Christians — a mere abstinence from riots, insurrections, plots, and rebellions. It was an armed watch set at the very door of the lips. For three hundred years there was a society prevailing the Roman world, consisting of men of every class and

condition, and horribly oppressed, which, during all that period, did not even talk or think resistance. However the yoke might gall them, they simply waited in quietness and confidence till the Hand that had put it on them should graciously take it off.

"And this quiet persistence was undoubtedly the secret of their strength. There were, as we have seen, corruptions among the early Christians, abuses, follies, superstitions. Scandals, perhaps, were almost as numerous in proportion to the number of believers as in any other age. Yet, on the whole, amid changes going on all around, the church alone stood firm and unaltered, witnessing to the same way, for three hundred years of almost continuous persecution. During all that period the preacher preached, the apologist explained, the martyr died, the bishop ruled, the priest ministered, the deacon gathered the poor, the exorcist banned the demons, the fossor delved in the bowels of the earth: in a word, the church kept together. But the same power which kept the church together, kept the Truth together. When the end of the first trial came, and the fourth century opened upon a day sevenfold more laborious than any that had gone before it, it found the mass of the faithful through the world still united in one doctrine, one discipline, one worship, one spirit: a unity the more amazing that it was free and spontaneous, and accompanied with every form of partial inconsistency and weakness. Where one martyr had bled two hundred years before, there were now hundreds prepared to bleed for the same testimony. Now this persistency could proceed only from faith. And faith in such a connection is but another word for life. In a living faith, therefore, not only unparalleled in itself, but exhibited under circumstances without parallel in the history of mankind, we find the secret of the continued existence, growth, and triumph of Christianity through the first and critical era of its manifestation."

In a sense these first centuries were not good times, for those who held to the Truth suffered every conceivable torture. But in another sense they were good times, for those who were called upon to suffer went bravely to meet death. They were glad to be counted worthy to suffer for the name of Jesus. They had their trials, and we have ours. The lesson to get from it all is that whatever victory we gain must be gained through faith, the faith that takes the Master at his word and endures till death. There is nothing else that can give such enduring peace in this world and such glorious assurance for the world to come. Lord, increase our faith.

## SHEPHERDING

One of the most beautiful concepts of Christ and of the Christian leader is the idea of being a shepherd.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." It was His will that He be in continuous care for the well-being of His sheep. It was a total preoccupation with Him. The total of His thought, His time, skill and strength was directly devoted to this end.

Every child first pictures Jesus as the Good Shepherd. This idea was woven into the thought and language of the Jewish people. Even in Psalms 23: we read, "The Lord is my Shepherd . . ." The dream of God is that the shepherd will be faithful and true. There is a great condemnation for those who fail in their task. Jeremiah 23:1 says: "Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture."

Jesus, the Good Shepherd was moved with compassion for the people. His disciples were His own little flock. It is important to understand that without a shepherd, a flock is helpless and will scatter. I wonder where some of the shepherds have gone today. In our mobile society, it seems so easy to motor away from the flock for many reasons and leave them to fend for themselves. Where are the shepherds today? The sound of the ocean might call them or the suns of the desert. A cabin in the woods might take them away from the flock for many months because of desiring to fulfill the desires of the flesh. But what of the flock? Jesus showed possession of His lambs and gave Peter the commission to feed them. That commission continues down to our day. . . to care for the lambs.

The shepherd of the Bible times was a simple man. He had his scrip to carry his simple food provisions, a sling to kill predatory animals, a staff to help him in retrieving straying animals and a rod, used to steady himself on the rocks and as an additional weapon against wild animals. He usually wore a skin robe with the fleece side in for the sake of warmth.

Today our shepherds are armed with a Sword . . . or the Word of God. But can it be used for the protection of the flock if they are far away from the lambs?

I am reminded that the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep in Christ's time was different from anything that we know now, especially in this country. The sheep at this time were kept for their milk and for wool. Consequently, a shepherd and his sheep were together for as long as eight or nine years. He literally had a name for every animal and they knew their names. In



addition, he did not have to drive them before him. He simply went in front of them and they followed him. (John 10:4, "He goes before them and the sheep follow Him.") Often the shepherd had to lead his flock through the narrow dark passages which were excellent places for wild beasts and robbers. This so beautifully illustrates the need for the shepherds in our churches today to be with their flocks, protecting them and hearing their calls. It is God's will that the flock not be left with an hireling. In Bible times, an hireling was sometimes employed on a per day basis to care for a flock. It is known that they were not really interested in the flock and never came to know the sheep or their names. They were only interested in the money . . . or in the lusts of this life. In the hour of danger, the hireling was apt to run for safety. In contrast, the shepherd would lay down his life for his flock. No danger was too great for him to defend the sheep whom he had come to love and who had come to love him.

Would the church shepherd of today be there to carry his exhausted lamb as is illustrated in Isa. 40:11? Where is the vigilance? How many sleepless nights the Master had for His lambs as He prayed that they might remain safe and secure in the faith.

Christ illustrates to us in the idea of the shepherd as one who is strong, courageous, protective, patient and self-sacrificing.

If the wolves of the world are to be kept out of the flocks of believers today, the shepherds must be there feeding, warning, and preparing them for the future. If God's man is faithful to put Christ's motives before his own, and commit himself to lead his people by doctrine and pattern, the church will remain safe during these end times.

May we each pray for and work toward Biblical shepherding in the church today.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## NEWS ITEMS

### WEST FULTON, OHIO

The Lord willing, the West Fulton Congregation plans to have Lovefeast Services, Saturday, May 19, with services beginning at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome. Come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Carolyn Carpenter, Cor.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MAY, 1984 OF THE EARTH

Memory Verse: Psa. 8:1

O Lord our Lord, how excellent  
is thy name in all the earth!  
who hast set thy glory above  
the heavens.

Tue. 1 - Psa. 2:1-12

Wed. 2 - Psa. 7:1-17

Thur. 3 - Psa. 8:1-9

Fri. 4 - Psa. 10:1-18

Sat. 5 - Psa. 12:1-8

Memory Verse: Psa. 24:1

The earth is the Lord's and  
the fulness thereof; the world,  
and they that dwell therein.

Sun. 6 - Psa. 16:1-11

Mon. 7 - Psa. 18:1-24

Tue. 8 - Psa. 18:25-50

Wed. 9 - Psa. 19:1-14

Thu. 10 - Psa. 21:1-13

Fri. 11 - Psa. 22:1-31

Sat. 12 - Psa. 24:1-10

Memory Verse: Psa. 113:9

He maketh the barren woman to  
keep house, and to be a joyful  
mother of children. Praise ye  
the Lord.

Sun. 13 - Psa. 113:1-9

Mon. 14 - Psa. 25:1-22

Tue. 15 - Psa. 33:1-22

Wed. 16 - Psa. 34:1-22

Thur. 17 - Psa. 37:1-19

Fri. 18 - Psa. 37:20-40

Sat. 19 - Psa. 41:1-13

Memory Verses: Psa. 25:12 & 13

What man is he that feareth the  
Lord? him shall he teach in the  
way that he shall choose. His  
soul shall dwell at ease; and his  
seed shall inherit the earth.

Sun. 20 - Psa. 46:1-11

Mon. 21 - Psa. 47:1-9

Tue. 22 - Psa. 48:1-14

Wed. 23 - Psa. 50:1-23

Thur. 24 - Psa. 57:1-11

Fri. 25 - Psa. 58:1-11

Sat. 26 - Psa. 59:1-17

Memory Verses: Psa. 37: 1 & 11

For yet a little while, and the  
wicked shall not be: yea, thou  
shall diligently consider his  
place, and it shall not be. But  
the meek shall inherit the earth;  
and shall delight themselves in  
the abundance of peace.

Sun. 27 - Psa. 60:1-12

Mon. 28 - Psa. 61:1-8

Tue. 29 - Psa. 63:1-11

Wed. 30 - Psa. 65:1-13

Thur. 31 - Psa. 66:1-20

Memory Verses: Psa. 46:10

Be still, and know that I am  
God: I will be exalted among  
the heathen, I will be exalted  
in the earth.

Psa. 61:2

From the end of the earth will  
I cry unto thee, when my heart  
is overwhelmed: lead me to the  
rock that is higher than I.

Lester Fisher  
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Covington, OH 45318

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# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 9

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WHEN MOTHER PRAYED

When mother pray'd! O precious hour  
When God would come in might pow'r!  
O Mem'ry sweet! O hallowed place  
Where God did shine in mother's face.

When mother pray'd ah, then I knew  
Within my soul that God was true;  
I could no longer doubt his love,  
But yielded all — born from above.

And tho' the years may come and go,  
This heart of mine can never know  
A sweeter time than that blest hour  
When Jesus came in saving power.

Tho' other scenes may be forgot,  
While life shall last this one cannot;  
When mother pray'd! O peace divine!  
My mother's God today is mine.



## **FAMILY DAY**

In May, we again have the opportunity to honor mothers with a special day. Certainly mothers are worthy of every honor their families may wish to bestow upon them. It is questionable whether the current commercialized celebration is as respectful as it might be. Too often the gifts, cards and honors are given from a sense of obligation and peer pressure. Often when the one day of celebration is over, many feel they have fulfilled their obligation so mother is neglected the rest of the year.

In June a similar day is dedicated to honoring fathers. Fathers also are well deserving of their families' respect. Because of father's position as stern disciplinarian, he may not be remembered as tenderly as mother, yet he is deserving of his special honor. Again too often this one day becomes a substitute for year long devotion.

Perhaps rather than fragmenting the family, by honoring first one parent then the other, it would be more pleasing and worthwhile to have one day set aside to honor not just the parents but the whole family. Today there are many pressures that are vying to tear the family apart so a day to honor the family might be a positive step toward drawing families together.

The typical American lifestyle has each member of the family persuing his own interests. Often families hardly find time to eat together let alone read, converse or pray together. With the passing of the family farm and small town business, families have been separated much of the day by work away from home, school activities and recreation. The family is fragmented by these activities so a special day together might be beneficial.

Also as Americans have become mobile and live in smaller houses or apartments, the extended family is also affected.

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Children grow up separated by many miles from grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins. It is difficult to maintain strong family ties over the distance.

Even when the family is close there still is not room or inclination to take the older generation into the home. Rest homes and nursing homes have taken over the family's duty to their elderly. While the institution can perform the task more efficiently it is not without a cost, financially and emotionally. The institution performs the task so well many family members feel relieved of their responsibility even to visit their elderly relatives.

In some families the annual family reunion provides a family day. It gives an opportunity for those separated by the miles to be together to be reunited in their family ties. Being together, remembering old times and thinking of the generations now gone, serves as a means to make the family stronger. It is good for the individual family to realize that they are part of a larger family.

The Christian not only has his family according to the flesh but also the family of God. The Church is a family. The members are the children of God and Brothers and Sisters through the rebirth process. The Christian is a part of his natural family by the natural birth and a part of God's family by the Spiritual birth.

The Christian family is drawn together by being together often and sharing their joys and worries. Every Sunday and at other times when the members gather they have the opportunity to be more fully united. Just as the natural family needs to be together to be drawn together so the Church needs to be together as often as possible.

Besides the weekly meetings of the Church, there is also the opportunity to gather in an annual meeting that is comparable to a family reunion. Here those who are separated can for a few days be together to encourage one another in the Christian journey of life. This time of study and worship brings the family of God together. As long as Christians have the feeling of the Church as a family instead of a bureaucratic organization, there will be a drawing together and a growth for the members. The Church must be careful to maintain itself as a family without separation between the members and the ministry. As the members of a family have differing functions and work to do, so the members of the Church have different offices to fill. But these differing functions should serve to bring God's people together not drive them apart.

The family is very important whether the natural or the Spiritual. God has His Hand in both, the one through physical creation, the other through Spiritual recreation. We should strive to have unity and strength in both families. Neither the natural nor the Spiritual family can exist at its best without the other. Happy Family Day to everyone.

## I CAN'T GET ANYTHING DONE!

As a mother, I feel at times that I can't get anything done except just that — being a mother. Between rocking the baby and entertaining our toddler; taking care of their physical and emotional needs, there isn't much time left for being a housekeeper, baker, or seamstress. I have found that this can be very discouraging. But as I think about it, I realize that perhaps God doesn't want me to worry myself with these other things. He has blessed me with the responsibility of children, and, for this period of my life, that is my job. And the job is a full time one. As quickly as the years pass by, it won't be long until the children are grown and gone, and then I will have plenty of time for the house. No doubt there will be times when I will miss the sound of a baby's cry and the lisping words of a child.

A cousin and friend of mine who is a busy mother of two, knows how frustrated a mother can get. Thoughtfully, she sent a poem to me, saying that it really helped her and she hoped that it would help me, too. It has, and I would like to pass it along to other busy mothers who feel that they "can't get anything done."

### THOUGHTS OF A BUSY MOTHER

If I can't find time to wash the floor, who will remember or care?

If I don't patch the holes in their old blue jeans, they can wear another pair.

The dust can sit right where it is for tomorrow there will be more.

If the day's too short to bake a cake, I can always run to the store.

But if I forget to wipe a tear or kiss an injured knee,

To cheer a frown, turn it upside down 'til they're chuckling with glee;

If I should fail to stop and chat when their tales are filled with woe,

To listen for unspoken words that only sad eyes show,

If I miss a chance to see the world through precious little eyes. . .

A dandelion, a crawly bug, a rainbow in the sky. . .

Then I missed a chance to share the day with One I hold most dear,

For God was knocking at my heart and I was too busy to hear.

— Author unknown

Sister Julie Litfin



The veil which covers the face of futurity is woven by the hand of mercy. - Bulwer



## THE TEARS WE CANNOT CRY

There are times when the grief we feel inside can't be expressed in tears. The pain in our hearts is too intense. We may not be able to put our feelings into words either — it hurts too much to even talk about it. Does God see the tears we can't cry? Does He hear the prayers we can't find words to pray? Surely He does, and He cares about our heartaches.

There are tears of contrition, tears of sorrow, of intercession and concern for souls. There are tears of concern which only a parent can cry. There are tears of joy and happiness, tears of loneliness, tears of compassion. Tears provide an emotional release, and sooner or later in your life, you will find yourself crying for one reason or another.

There are tears, like Esau's, which come too late. The opportunity was gone forever, and it couldn't be changed. No doubt his heart ached many times after he knew he'd missed the blessing, an ache which tears alone could not relieve. All Esau could do now was go on and make the best of the time he had left. He knew where the mistake was, but looking back couldn't change his future.

Whatever the reason for our tears, someday they will all be wiped away, if we are God's own. But what about now? Is the pain of sorrow, failure, or loneliness ours alone to bear, or does God care? Will He help us, and strengthen us, even when we caused the problem ourselves? If we come to God for help, He will provide. He may not wipe out all the pain, but He will help us to face life as it is.

You may be at the point where the tears are over, you simply can't cry anymore, and yet the pain is still there day in and day out. Does it matter to God that your distress is so great? If it didn't matter, He wouldn't have given us Jesus to save us and abide in our hearts. If it didn't matter, the Holy Spirit - the Comforter - our Comforter - would not have come. If it didn't matter, our Heavenly Father wouldn't have made Himself available to us through prayer.

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief . . . Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. . . . He was wounded for our transgressions." (From Isa. 53) Jesus knows what it means to hurt, to be grieved, to be filled with sorrow. He was, and still is, rejected by the very ones He came to help. In spite of this, He finished what He started and took the burden of our sin upon Himself. Can you see then how much Jesus cares for you? He gave all He had to give, just for you.

"Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee." (Psa. 55:22) "Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord beholdeth him with his hand." Psa. 37:24. "Casting all your

care upon him, for he careth for you." I Pet. 5:7. There are many causes for grief in our lives and the solutions aren't all the same either. But our need of the Lord is constant. He alone has the strength we need, and He has promised us His care in our distress.

What should you do when there are tears you can't cry, when you are so burdened that you are nearly overwhelmed? Look to Jesus! In Him, you can find strength and peace. Without Him, there's only more despair. Even if you can't cry out to Him, you can be sure He sees your distress, and He cares. Later on, you will be able to look back and see how Jesus did take care of you.

When Job was overwhelmed by trouble, some of his friends came and sat silently with him, "for they saw that his grief was very great." Job 2:13. They didn't understand Job's problem, but at least they cared enough to be with him. Your friends may not understand yours either, but share your burden with someone. Above all else, ask to be lifted up in prayer to the One who does understand — Jesus.

Joseph's bowels yearned upon his brother, Benjamin (Gen. 43:30). Jacob refused to be comforted when he thought Jesus was dead (Gen 37: 35). Jesus groaned in the spirit when He saw those grieving over the death of Lazarus. There was a depth of emotion in each of these persons which tears and words alone couldn't express. When your heart is heavy, think of Jesus. Ask Him for help, for a friend to confide in, just whatever you need. Remember Jesus cares, even about the tears you cannot cry.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **MIX AND MATCH RELIGION**

II Kings 17:32-33 "So they feared the Lord, and made unto themselves of the lowest of them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places. They feared the Lord, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence."

First of all, we wish to assure you that this writing is being presented with the attitude of love and concern. We are, perhaps, more "ecumenical" in spirit than most of our conservative Brethren. Therefore we wish to extend our love and respect towards them also. We also wish to make it plain that we are not judging any individual's salvation. We feel that is best left in the hands of God. However, on the other hand, we are in disagreement with those who teach that our actions have nothing to do with our salvation. Romans 6:15-16 clearly teaches, "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God

forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye (Christians) yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" To make this "death" to be physical death is to support the ridiculous teaching, in our opinion, that God will strike you dead and take you to Heaven for PUNISHMENT. Also, when taken in context we find that it is in contrast to everlasting (or eternal) life according to verses 22 and 23 of this chapter. We know that "eternal life" does not mean we will not die physically (unless the Lord should return). Therefore "death" CAN NOT refer to physical death in verse 16.

We believe that the statement in I Peter 4:17, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: . . .", along with our opening verses is very apropos to the situation within the earthly church today. Although there has always been false teaching and compromise within the earthly church, we believe I Timothy 3:13 describes the situation well. "But evil men and seducers SHALL WAX WORSE AND WORSE, deceiving, and being deceived."

The false "mix and match religion" has even had its effect on the once "plain" churches. They have accepted the teaching that the Bible does not really mean what it says in relation to personal dress and conduct. That a woman is to have uncut hair and man's short hair is considered to be non-essential. Modest attire for both sexes is simply not considered. (It is even more inconsistent that some preachers will speak against men having long hair, but refuse to speak out on the Bible teaching (I Corin. 11:15) that a woman should have long hair or the issue of immodest dress (I Tim. 2:8-9) in their sermons.)

There was once the time that the Church was encouraged to be separate from the world. This was in accordance with I John 2:15, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world . . ." Verse 16 gives us a list of what this referse to "the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life." Think about these things in relation to the "Mix and match religion" within the earthly church. Individuals who walk around with more skin exposed than covered are certainly guilty of "the lust of the flesh." They then are at least partly responsible for the sin of "the lust of the eyes." This does not excuse others for allowing themselves to lust after those who do thing thing. It is also possible to have "the lust of the eyes" in relation to an individual who IS properly dressed. With so many professing Christians having television in their homes, this caution should be taken very seriously. We once had a television and we know how much could cause "lust of the eyes" at that time. We are told it is even worse now.



The desire to look and act like the world is no more than the sin of "the pride of life." The acceptance of the entertainment field into the church has caused the situation of "the world tells the church how to act and dress rather than the Church witnessing to the world." It is our personal conviction that we are doing Hollywood movie and television "stars" a grave injustice by allowing them to believe they can continue their life style and still be acceptable in the eyes of God. If you feel this is un-loving, compare it with I Corin. 13: (the LOVE chapter) 6 (love or charity) "Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth."

This "mix and match religion" did not appear overnight. It was brought about by teachers who claimed to love the Lord but refused to teach unpopular doctrines found in scripture. As it states in II Kings 17:41. "So these nations (churches) feared the Lord, and served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day." May God give us the courage to give a Biblical heritage to our children. Even if our children refuse to FOLLOW scriptural truth, the chances are good they will share their parents convictions with their children. At any rate, our hands are clean if we share the whole Word of God with them and others.

If you are reading this and have never decided WHAT you will follow, we urge you to be "born again" by the Spirit of God. Without this experience you CANNOT follow God. After this experience the Holy Spirit will give you the strength to follow the Holy Word of God. Whatever you do, FOLLOW ALL OF IT. The full revelation of God was given to the New Testament Church. Jesus Christ is the full and final revelation of God. He said in Mark 16:16 "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
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## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **SPIRITUAL WEAKNESS**

How often we have sung the phrase, "I am weak but thou are strong . . ." Do we really understand the depth of the words we are singing? Jesus wants to be our strength but He can't be unless we let Him. In order for Jesus to be our strength, we must be weak . . . by God's definition. We must recognize that we are unable to live the Christian life on our own. Being weak is not meekly trying to be nice to a crabby, domineering person and getting a little help from

Jesus to help you tolerate it. It is not a matter of witnessing softly and in embarrassment without God's power behind you. It is not a sad, downcast look all the time nor is it an out of shape or weak body which has not been exercised properly. It IS recognizing that apart from Jesus, you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

Sometimes we use the word "weakness" to cover up sins. We say, "I'm just too weak to stand up to that temptation." That is simply the flesh having victory in your life. Laziness and excuses and misappropriation of time and energy are counted as weakness. Ultimately, these are just problems of selfishness and disobedience.

Some people say, "the devil made me do it" . . . stating that it is their humanness that was susceptible to the sin and that it couldn't be controlled. We are trying to do something under our own power or something that God doesn't want us to do and we can't expect His strength for that. It might also be selfishness. This is the age of self advancement and exaltation. To be dependent on Christ and your faith is considered weakness in the eyes of the unbelieving world.

Acquiring God's strength requires submissiveness to His will. This strength will come when we stop calling sin "laziness" and disobedience "weakness." We must then pray for the ability to be God's person in all areas of life. This will include the simple tasks as well as the complex ones. God will be glorified when you are constantly seeking His guidance in all of your responsibilities and relationships.

II Chronicles 16:9 reads, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. . . ." As God's strength pours into us through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, we will experience strength and power beyond our comprehension. Further, II Corin. 12:10 teaches us, ". . . for when I am weak, then am I strong." This scripture illustrates Paul's dependence and weakness. Power in the church . . . he had it! Political power . . . he had it! Personality power, he had that too! But he understood his position of weakness before the Almighty God. If we acknowledge our weakness as Paul did, and by faith claim God's strength for our lives, we will be able to draw on His resources. We will be made strong in our weakness.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## THE POWER AND PERMANENCE OF THE PRINTED PAGE

Did you know that God is a writer? God Himself wrote the Decalogue. Why did He write it? Word of mouth is changeable. It becomes distorted. The printed page stands. God wanted the basic moral code in writing.

Thirty-two times in the Bible we find the command to write. "And the Lord said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book" write, in the context of their own homes, so their children might be impressed with the truth.

"Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen" (Isaiah 8:1). "Write it in their sight." Why? "That they may keep the whole form thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and do them." (Ezekiel 43:11)

Jude "gave all diligence to write." There is a sense of urgency in the way he found it needful to write. And this urgency does not diminish. Twelve times John, in writing the Book of Revelation, was commanded to write. What would we know today about the teachings of Jesus and the apostles if no one had written?

The power of the pen is proven by history. Civilizations have been molded and shaped by literature. Their moral standards have risen and fallen with their literary diet. Empires rose and fell, borne on the waves of their writings. The Dark Ages were dark partly because of a dearth of good literature. And we dare not overlook the influence of the Bible in ending this dark period. Wycliff's Bible in the language of the people appeared about 1382.

The Reformation was certainly carried forth on the wings of literature. For years Luther averaged a book or pamphlet a week.

If our Anabaptist forefathers would have been as indifferent to Christian writings as most of us are, we would hardly know there were Anabaptists. All we would have today would be the distorted views of their enemies. Twenty-five years after the Anabaptists movement began, five Anabaptist hymnals had appeared. When the authorities raided the print shop at Lubeck in the early 1550's, they found ten tons of books. From 1536 to his death, Menno Simons wrote numerous books and pamphlets. Most of this time there was a price on his head and a death penalty for aiding him in any way. What dedication in the midst of difficulty!

Consider the permanence of the printed page. The printed page preserves precious pearls, perilous propaganda, and pertinent doctrine. Foremost of these precious pearls is the Word itself. The tables of stone on which God engraved the Ten Commandments are a classic symbol of permanence. "Now go, write it before them . . . in a book, that it may be for the time to come forever and ever"



(Isaiah 30:8). The Bible is a miracle of preservation. It is a proof of God's interest in the written Word.

Printing also preserves perilous propaganda. Are promoters of falsehood, in their use of literature, wiser than the children of light? In 1978 the Jehovah's Witnesses distributed over 257 million copies of their publications. Communism spends over five billion dollars a year producing propaganda. That is over \$500,000.00 an hour. In 1980, Handbook of Supernatural Powers sold 208,302 copies. The occultism that is coming in upon us is the dark ages of our day. What a challenge to meet these thrusts with Christian literature!

We need to produce Christian books and periodicals to develop and stabilize our own Biblical faith, and to win others to the faith of Christ. Johann Gutenberg, the father of modern printing, wrote: "God suffers because of the great multitudes whom His sacred Word cannot reach. Religious truth is captive in a small number of manuscript books which guard the treasure. Let us break the seal which holds the holy things, give wings to that truth that by a means no longer written at great expense by the hand that wearies itself, but multiplied by an unwearied machine, it may fly to every soul born into the world."

Too long our literature interests have lagged behind. We let the Calvinists write the commentaries. We let the world write the textbooks for our schools. We may not have much time anymore. Our prospect for the future is the second coming of Christ. While we wait, let us publish and promote that literature which builds the church. We will pray, preach, write, and proclaim until Jesus comes. Maranatha!

—Christian Light Publications News Release

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

### **THE SALUTATION OF THE KISS**

Charles M. Yearout

"Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss, I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren." I Thess. 5:26-27. This Christian greeting has been practiced in the Church of Christ all down her pathway toward the Heavenly Kingdom.

David James Burrell, has truthfully said: "The two great words of Scripture are 'Believe' and 'Obey'. No man is saved by merely believing in Christ. He must obey. Until he does that, he is not a Christian. As soon as he has accepted Christ as his savior, his whole obligation is represented in the word 'Obedience,' that is,

obedience to the moral law as set forth in the teachings of Christ. But those who are seeking for an excuse for not observing the holy kiss, will tell you Christ never commanded His followers to practice this apostolic teaching.

The apostles were commanded: teach the baptized believers to observe all things whatsoever Christ had commanded them. (Matt. 28:18-20). The things the apostles taught were commanded by the Lord. Jesus says of His apostles: "He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me dispiseth him that sent me." (Luke 10:16)

The Apostle Paul, who commands the observance of the holy kiss four times in his epistles to the churches, in his letter to the church at Corinth says: "If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord." (I Cor. 14:37; see also Gal. 1:11-12) Paul commanded the church at Corinth twice to "Greet one another with a holy kiss." (I Cor. 16:20; II Cor. 13:12)

The salutation of the kiss was evidently practiced by Christ and His apostles. (Matt. 26:48-49). It is very evident that Judas would have never betrayed the Heavenly Master with a kiss, had it not been their custom to greet each other with a kiss when they met.

The apostolic church observed this beautiful token of love, when taking leave of one another. (Acts 20:27)

The Apostle Peter in writing "to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia" who were in Christ, says: "Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity, love, peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen." (I Peter 5:14)

The Church of the Brethren taught and practiced the salutation of the holy kiss universally so far as my knowledge goes, until in recent years, it is practically set aside in many places, except on love feast occasions. This is largely due to unfaithful elders, pastors and traveling evangelists, who neither teach nor practice it, but their influence is rather against its practice. The first time I came in contact with a revolt and disobedience to these New Testament commands I was shocked. A noted evangelist came into the church where I held my membership to hold a series of meetings. Having been acquainted with him in his boyhood, I was glad for his coming. The first night I met him at the church I made an attempt to greet him with a kiss, but he stiffened his arm, and refused the gospel salutation. He said he did not practice it any more, since he had studied the subject symbolically. The symbolic study of this gospel teaching dispensed with its practice. He also stated that the practice of the holy kiss was unhealthful, as

diseases were contracted through its practice. May God pity such lack of faith and distrust in Him. The good Lord will take care of those, who from their heart OBEY his inspired Word. The deadly serpent did not hurt Paul, though it was on his hand. The caldron of boiling oil did not kill the Apostle John, though he was cast into it. The heated furnace did not burn the three faithful Hebrews, but they walked in the burning flames unharmed. The ferocious lions did not devour Daniel, though he was with them all night in their den. Neither will obedience to God's holy commandments bring disease or hurt to his faithful children. Pride and worldliness in the member, is the underlying cause for ignoring and disobeying God's counsel. The salutation of the holy kiss was practiced by the apostolic church and her successors.

The Waldenses, Albigenses, and number of other persecuted Trine immersionist churches, practiced the holy kiss. When the Church of the Brethren was organized for the purpose of restoring primitive christianity and the practice of all the commands in the New Testament, they found the salutation of the kiss was practiced, and five times commanded in God's plan of human salvation. It sure must take a stubborn, rebellious christian (?) to ignore a command of God, five times repeated. This christian greeting is a token of brotherly love and fellowship. This gospel greeting was observed in the general church, until pride and a worldly spirit entered the church, then the holy kiss and other plain gospel commands were ignored, and cast out as non-essential. We are living in an age of departures from Bible truths and doctrines. The departures and changes however, are in men. The blessed Old Book of God has not changed. The salutation of the kiss has ever been a peculiarity of the holy brethren or church of Christ all down the fleeting years, and will continue to be practiced by his humble, faithful followers until He comes again, though ignored and set aside by the fleshly world-loving church members.

Brethren, let us walk in the good old paths, and "earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints."

## HE LEADETH THEM OUT

He leadeth them out, and His sheep gladly follow,  
Content to be near Him, where ere it may be,  
No longing have they for the world or its pleasure,  
While His voice they can hear, and His face they can see.  
The voice of the stranger can never allure them,  
Away from their Shepherd, away from His fold,  
His voice is to them, of all the voices, the sweetest,  
His love far more precious than diamonds, or gold.  
He leads, and they follow, where dangers are hidden,



O'er paths that are lonely, where deep waters flow.  
The touch of His hand gives them strength for the journey,  
As onward and upward and homeward they go.  
Though pressed in the conflict, and often so weary,  
They know He is near them, each burden to share,  
And "filled with the Spirit" they see in the distance  
The light of the city, that lieth foursquare.  
He leads and they follow, His reproach gladly bearing,  
The cross, all their glory, come joy or come pain,  
In humble submission, by service, or silence,  
No haste, and not worry, impatience, or strain.  
How precious to know that He goeth before us,  
By faith we can follow where our eyes may not see,  
Mid doctrines of demons, and men, so confusing,  
We hear His voice whisper, "My child, follow Me."

—Alfred Easterbrook  
Selected by Sister Ruth Snyder

## NEWS ITEMS

### 1984 GENERAL CONFERENCE

June 9-13, 1984

Directions to Roxbury Holiness Camp Grounds located ½ mile south of Roxbury, Pennsylvania on Route 997.

Those traveling on Pennsylvania turnpike (no. 76) exit number 15, take 997 south to camp grounds.

Those traveling Interstate 81 North or South exit on Scotland Exit take 997 north to camp grounds.

Those traveling on train or plane go to Harrisonburg. Take Greyhound bus service to Shippensburg, Pennsylvania and call camp grounds for transportation. Telephone number is 532-2208.

There is plenty of room for campers and trailers. Please bring sheets and pillow cases.

Are your reservations made? Lodging Committee:

Bro. Verling Wolfe  
R. D. #1482  
Bethel, Pennsylvania 19507

Bro. Edwin Stauffer  
R. D. 1, Box 291 Sinclair Road  
Newmanstown, Pennsylvania 17073

## THANKS

We want to thank each one for the prayers, thoughts and cards on Kyle's behalf. It is hard to express how very much it all means to have so many Brothers and Sisters so willing to help you over the hard times. May our Lord and Savior be ever near each of you also.

Sister Letha Brown

## THANKS AND APPRECIATION

I wish to thank every one for the cards, gifts, flowers and telephone calls during my stay at the hospital in January and since I have returned home. I especially appreciate the many prayers that were offered in my behalf. God has been good and there is much to be thankful for.

God's blessings be with you all.

Sister Ruby Sowers

## THANKS

I wish to thank everyone for their every remembrance of me while I was in the hospital and recuperating at home. Every prayer, card, visit, telephone call, and act of love was greatly appreciated. Feeling the supportive love and care of Christ's body for this needy member and realizing the strength and joy it brought me, made me think of the joy it brings our Heavenly Father when the body is loving and supporting its members. May we better appreciate what Christ has made us partakers of. God bless you each and every one abundantly.

In Christian love,  
Sister Barbara Smith

## A NOTE OF THANKS

We want to thank each one who sent us cards for our anniversary. Each one is very much appreciated.

Brother and Sister Delma Stump

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Lester Fisher  
4664 N. State Rte. 48  
Covington, OH 45318

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

MAY 15, 1984

NO. 10

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## DO NOT I LOVE THEE

Do not I love thee, O my Lord?  
Behold my heart and see;  
And turn the dearest idol out  
That dares to rival thee.

Is not thy name melodious still  
To mine attentive ear?  
Doth not each pulse with pleasure bound,  
My Savior's voice to hear?

Hast thou a lamb in all thy flock  
I would disdain to feed?  
Hast thou a foe before whose face  
I fear thy cause to plead?

Would not my heart pour forth its blood  
In honor of thy name?  
And challenge the cold hand of death  
To damp th' immortal flame!

Thou know'st I love thee, dearest Lord,  
But O! I long to soar  
Far from the sphere of mortal joys,  
And learn to love thee more.

## **GOD'S LOVE AND HIS COMMANDMENTS**

One of the characteristics of God is love. Without His love we could neither know what love was or how to share it with others. God's love is the basis and standard for all love. The world today often confuses lust and desire for love. Because the world has gotten away from God, they have also drawn away from His love. As they have forgotten God, they have forgotten what love really is.

The Christian is the recipient of this love. God's love is available to the whole world, but most reject it either because of disinterest, misinformation or misdirection from the enemy of their souls. The few who do accept it are blessed beyond their own imagining. Not only do they receive love but they are then able to show love. Any service for God not motivated by that love is merely good works and a part of the social gospel. But those works when stimulated by the love of God become an extension of His love.

God's love is expressed in its highest form by the gift of His Son. His love was first demonstrated by sending Jesus to the Earth in human form. Beyond that He willed for Jesus to die as the sin-bearer for the whole human family. This love was so great that it was extended to men even while they were yet lost. There was nothing men could do to lift themselves up so they could become worthy of this love. Instead this love was given. It was subject only to their acceptance or rejection. This love could do for them what they could never do for themselves — save them from their sins and make them a part of God's family.

Christians recognize the debt of love that they owe to God. He loved us before we loved Him, even when we were altogether unlovely. But because He loved us we have the capacity and the duty to love Him.

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### **THE BIBLE MONITOR**

**MAY 15, 1984**

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Love like faith and other emotions is easy to speak of but hard to define. Love itself cannot be recognized. Only the service inspired by love can show the presence of that love. It cannot be seen or felt except it is revealed through action. Jesus many times spoke of displaying love so it could be known by others. He spoke of various earthly deeds that could be done to others signifying this love. This love is portrayed as the giving of a cup of cold water. James writes of those who would do good to others must do more than mouth words of love and encouragement, there must be an accompanying action.

Husbands and wives must be careful that their love does not flicker and die. If there are no deeds of love, there can be no assurance in the heart of the other that love is still there. Too often as couples over the years become more and more familiar with each other, they take each other more and more for granted. Then they forget to speak to and of each other with the same love backed words they used in courting days. Little words and deeds of love (not sentimentality or infatuation) can keep that love vital.

Jesus said that those who loved Him would do His commandments. Many would like to alter those words but it would be far better if they allowed those words to alter them and their service to God. Keeping His commandments is not designed just for His honor but for our good. "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." I John 5:3. The keeping of His commandments not only shows our love to Him in return. The giving of His commandments for us to keep also shows another facet of His love toward us.

How could we be sure of how to show our return love to Him, if He did not give us specific commands to do? By providing these things to do, He gave us the very things that would please Him and would bless us. Jesus when commanding that feet be washed said that in so doing we would be happy. So God's love is contained in the command, for if it is kept, there will be a blessing for the doer.

Because His commands are based on His love, they are not dictatorial nor aimless. They are not too hard to do but rather designed for our good. If we have the love to keep the commandment then we will not find it too hard.

God is love. He constantly displays that love in many ways. Through His Son and His Word He gives us what is necessary to build a Christian life pleasing to Him. Take advantage of His love, accept it for your soul's salvation and return your love to Him.



He is the freeman whom the truth makes free, and all are slaves besides. - Cowper



## OUR "SECURITY BLANKET"

Nearly every little child has a favorite stuffed animal or small blanket. It is his silent partner when he's tired, hurt or frustrated. It gives him a sense of security to hold on to it, hence the term "security blanket." God's children also have a "security blanket", something to hold on to when troubled and distressed. It is the promise of God's continual care.

Jesus said, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." John 14:18. He was to soon leave this earth when He said that, but He was still concerned about His followers. Jesus knew they were headed for troubled times, and He promised them that the Holy Spirit would come after He left. This Comforter would guide and direct just as Jesus would if He were still on earth. Even though Jesus Himself would be gone, His followers would still be cared for.

Someone had used the phrase, "The Comforter cometh", in the presence of a child. This same child later was trying to comfort someone else and said, "Don't be afraid, He's coming with a quilt." Even though this child didn't understand, he did recognize that there was no need to be afraid. He knew help would come, because the promise was there. We should recognize also that we do not need to be afraid because we will be taken care of.

There is security in God's love for every born-again believer in Christ. The question, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" can best be answered, "Nothing or no one!" No matter what happens to you, whether you live or die, you will be kept by His love. You may lose everything on this earth, but with Jesus, you still have the best there is. (See Rom. 8:35-39)

When we consider God's love for us, and the promise of His care, we have plenty of reasons to be uplifted and encouraged rather than downcast and discouraged. "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casteth out fear." I John 4:18. When God's love is perfected in us, we not only have a closer walk with Him, but we know we don't need to be afraid. We know He will take care of us.

In I Kings 17:13, Elijah said to the widow, "Fear not." Fear not what? Don't be afraid that you'll starve to death; God is going to provide! This woman had reached the end, she thought. She was destitute, the food was almost gone, and now here was a man asking her to give him what was left. Elijah gave her God's promise, she believed it, and did as he asked. Her faith was rewarded as promised and their food lasted until the famine was over.

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Isa. 41:10. Regardless of how helpless and hopeless you may feel, you can rest

secure in God's care. In Him, there is help and strength sufficient for your need.

"Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee: and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Isa. 43:1-2. When you are secure, you are not afraid, and you can be secure in God's care. God has claimed you and He will also protect you.

A child finds comfort in his blanket or toy. We are to find our comfort in God's care and love. When God says, "I will help you", believe Him. When he said, "I'll protect you", trust Him to do just that. A little child holds on to a parent's hand, secure in the knowledge that he'll be safe. Put your hand in God's and you too will be safe and secure.

This is only a sample of the promises we have of God's care. Do take His promises to heart and rest in His care. God provides us with complete security - physical, emotional, and spiritual. As he has promised, so will He do. This is the Christian's "security blanket" -- hold on to it.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

**May 15, 1924**

### **THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING RECOGNIZED**

Samuel Weiner

There is a great advantage when traveling or otherwise of being recognized to know where one belongs. In my young days nine years of my married life were spent in the Greenland congregation, West Virginia and in that time Elder Jacob Wine of the Flat Rock congregation of Virginia came over the hills and valleys there to preach for us. When visiting at one time at my house he told me that there was a certain prominent brother in the west that he had heard of and spoken of and he had had a desire to meet that brother and as he made a trip into the west at a certain time he was in Chicago and was on the sidewalk of one street and he saw a man across the street on the opposite sidewalk that he recognized as a brother by his dress. So he immediately crossed the street to speak to the brother and behold it was the very brother that he had a longing desire to meet and see.

And at a certain time when I lived in Michigan I was down in Indiana and when on my way home soon after I boarded the train, there came to me a young man and said don't you belong to the

Dunkards? I answered yes. He said his father and mother belonged so he seated himself beside me and we had a long pleasant visit. Although he was not a brother he was glad to meet one.

While I was living in Arkansas I made a trip to Minnesota and north Wisconsin and while waiting in the depot at St. Paul for a train out, I met Elder P. S. Miller. There we recognized each other by our dress. I was glad for the good visit I had with him as I never had met him before. When I traveled on the train I always was on the lookout to see if I could recognize a brother or sister and at different times I did and had a visit. I like to look like a brother and be recognized as one.

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"FREEDOM"**

All of us want freedom, but do we really understand what it is? It seems that we all believe in freedom, just as we are all against sin, but the meaning is far from clear. Even the dictionary is shallow in its definition of freedom as it defines it as the absence or release from ties and obligations, the power of determining one's own action without restraint, control, or binding. Far to the contrary, there is no freedom without responsibility, discipline, sacrifice and commitment.

Some are so confused that they think of the freest choices being made with the flip of a coin and that is about how serious most people take life. This type of freedom only sidesteps responsible choice. And choice without responsibility is possible only for a little child. That kind of "freedom" wants to do as it pleases without concern of others.

The world's freedom is that of non-involvement where a person can have all the goodies and no responsibilities. This leads to trophies of shattered lives. They tout us with freedom from responsibility and free love. Emphatically, if it is free, it is not love!

So, responsibility is the entrance to freedom. The more we understand and accept responsibility, based on commitment, the more free we become. The common experience of man for thousands of years has demonstrated that freedom is not the absence of law . . . moral, social, or political. Freedom is the result. And the greater the commitment, the more the freedom. You become truly free when commitment comes alive through internal discipline under the direction of the Holy Spirit. Rebelling against Christ and the church will NOT bring you freedom. It will only lead you into evil and discontent. When you are unrestrained, your urges are unleashed to do what the Prince and Power of this world wants you to do. It might include partying, cheating, senseless



stealing, sexual looseness, involvement in alcohol, drugs or rock music. This rebellion is not just an evidence of the modern societal crisis, it is more a sign of a lack of spirituality.

I challenge you to take the option of accepting and channeling your energies into acts of real freedom. This will include interdependence . . . not independence relative to your actions. The Bible emphasizes that we all need each other. You'll not find freedom in a "superiority complex."

Discipline is the price of maturity. There is no achievement without it. And maturity is not always relative to chronological age. Some people continue to grow more selfish as they get older, rather than becoming more disciplined and objective. An undisciplined adult is just a child who has grown old! **YOU CAN GROW OLD WITHOUT GROWING UP!** A person who rebels against responsibility, commitment to moral principle and personal discipline soon discover themselves even more enslaved to their passions, anger, hatred, lust and boredom.

Ultimately, the only free man or woman is the person who chooses the discipline of following Jesus Christ in-toto. Only then are you freed from your past with its responsibilities and regrets. Only then are you free to be genuine, honest, loving, right and responsible as God meant you to be. You will then be all that God intends you to be. Christ will allow you **REAL** freedom. Open your life to Him and experience true freedom. Experience forgiveness of your ruined past and gain strength for your future. Pledge yourself to follow Jesus in disciplined living. **LET THE SON OF GOD SET YOU "FREE INDEED!"**

Brother Leonard Wertz

## **IN TIMES OF TRIBULATION**

Acts 14:22, "Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

In the modern day, earthly church, when the word, "tribulation" is used, with very few exceptions, it is referring to end time events. There is much discussion and argument over pre-tribulation, mid-tribulation, and post-tribulation theories. It would seem like most of our conservative Brethren hold to the pre-tribulation theory. We confess that we held to the mid-tribulation theory until very recently and argued for it.

While we would not deny the real possibility of future tribulation, we believe it is important to realize that the Bible teaches that the Christian is to expect tribulation in the here and now! There is a fine line of differentiation between persecution and tribulation. We are not sure we are able to explain the difference. However, we feel

that tribulation would include persecution but go beyond it.

In Matthew 13, we find the parable of the sower. In verse 21 we read, "Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while; for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended." We find we can expect tribulation when we hold to the Word of God. We believe that tribulation comes from Satan. We disagree with those who teach that God sends tribulation. It is true that God chastens those whom He loves (Hebrews 12:5-6), but we do not see this as tribulation. Of course, Satan uses individuals to do his work, the same as God uses Christians to fulfill His purposes.

John 16:33 reads, "These things I have spoken unto you, that ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have TRIBULATION: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Praise the Lord! We are not alone in our tribulation. Jesus Christ is able to "give us peace in the midst of the storm," as one of the song writers has said.

Romans 5:3 "And not only so, but we glory in tribulation also: knowing that TRIBULATION worketh patience:" Then in Romans 12:12 we find we are to be "patient in tribulation." We confess that we have not come to the point where we look forward to tribulation. We find comfort in our good job, nice home, and other worldly benefits. But we believe if Satan should cause us to lose these, because of our stand for the Word of God, the Holy Spirit would give us the grace to "glory in" and "be patient in" tribulation.

II Cor. 1:3-4, "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort: Who comforteth us in all our TRIBULATION, . . ." Then in II Cor. 7:4, we find the words, ". . . I am exceeding joyful in all our TRIBULATION." Not only do we have Jesus Christ on our side during tribulation but we have the promise of the comfort of the Father. We know that the Holy Spirit is also called the Comforter (John 15:16). We can say with Paul, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Romans 8:18.

We would now like to briefly look at tribulation as it is found in the book of Revelation. What we are about to share is very controversial. We share it in a spirit of love and understanding towards those who disagree with our thoughts. We are not great in wisdom and knowledge and confess that those who disagree with us are much more learned and intelligent. Yet we greatly appreciate the simple understanding of our Brethren forefathers concerning end time events. In essence they said that God will bring about all end time events in His own way and time.

In Rev. 1:1 we find the things written by John "must shortly come to pass;". Then in verse 3 we read, "for the time is at hand." It is

interesting to us that some Bible scholars say that everything in the book of Revelation was fulfilled, with the exception of Christ's second coming, within three hundred years of the vision God gave John.

In writing to the church at Smyrna in Rev. 2:9 Jesus says (through John), "I know thy works, and TRIBULATION . . ." Then in verse 10 we read, ". . . behold the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried: and ye shall have TRIBULATION ten days."

In Revelation 2:22-23 we find that God will cast his servants who commit spiritual adultery into great tribulation. Notice it does not say that this tribulation comes from God, but that God will cast them into it. Satan brings tribulation to both those who serve him and those who oppose him.

There are many, perhaps the majority within conservative Brethren circles, who state dogmatically that the Church can see no future tribulation because they will be raptured out of this world in Rev. 4:1. But this verse does not mention either the Church or the Saints.

In Rev. 7:14 we find those who have "come out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." Who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb (Jesus Christ) but the Church victorious? There is no way we can make this verse refer to "tribulation Jews."

In conclusion, there is no mention of a seven year tribulation in the book of Revelation. This belief comes from a complicated interpretation of the book of Daniel. We feel very strongly that the teaching that the Church CANNOT go through a future tribulation makes weak Christians who fall away in times of tribulation. We know that God took Noah, Daniel, the three Hebrew children, and others through great tests of faith (tribulation). None of these were taken from the world but given safety in the destruction around them.

If you do not know Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, we cannot promise you a life without tribulation. In fact, it may cost you your life to serve Him. But you ARE assured of life eternal and His strength to take you through all tribulation if you accept Him.

May we as Christians be ready to serve God no matter what the cost. Let us take great pleasure in the fact that God the Father, God the Son, (Jesus Christ), and God, the Holy Spirit will give us strength to meet the tribulation the Bible seems to PROMISE to those who obey Him.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.,  
Palmyra, PA 17078



# GENERAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

of the

## DUNKARD BRETHREN CHURCH

to be held at

ROXBURY CAMP GROUNDS  
ROXBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

June 9-13, 1984

### PREACHING PROGRAM

TIME	SPEAKER	SUBJECT	TEXT
Sat. P.M.	Paul Hartz	Come Ye Apart And Rest Awhile	Mark 6:31
Sat. P.M.	Ronald Marks	To Be Supplied	
Sat. Eve.	Warren Smith	Foundations	1 Cor. 3:10-23
Sun. A.M.	Sunday School for Children	The Conversion of Saul	Acts 9:1-32
Sun. A.M.	Harley Rush	A Separate People	2 Cor. 6:17 Phil. 2:12 Luke 5:4
Sun. A.M.	Allen Eberly	To Be Supplied	
Sun. P.M.	Robert Carpenter	To Be Supplied	
Sun. P.M.	Jacob Ness	To Be Supplied	
Sun. Eve.	Eugene Kauffman	The Two Heredities	John 3:6
Sun. Eve.	Fred Pifer	To The Young People	
		Is There Not A Cause?	I Samuel 17:29
Mon. A.M.	Bible Study	Adults: Wisdom	James 13:18
		Children: Paul and Silas in Prison	Acts 16:16-40
Mon. A.M.	Jack Snyder	To Be Supplied	
Mon. P.M.	Jan Heisey	The Waters of Marah Today	Ex. 15:24, 25
Mon. P.M.	Dennis St. John	To Be Supplied	
Mon. Eve.	Frank Shaffer	I Will Trust And Not Be Afraid	Isa. 12:2
Mon. Eve.	Hayes Reed	The Chemistry Of Tears	II Kings 20:1-6
Tues. A.M.	Bible Study	Adults: Pure Religion	James 1:19-27
		Children: Shipwrecked	Acts 27
Tues. A.M.	David Kegerreis	To Be Supplied	
Tues. P.M.	To Be Supplied by the	Decorum Committee	
Tues. Eve.	William Carpenter	Missionary Sermon	
		And They Went Everywhere	
		Preaching The Word	Acts 8:4

## CARLETTA AND THE MERCHANT

"If I could only have your faith, gladly would I — but I was born a skeptic. I cannot look upon God and the future as YOU do."

So said John Harvey as he walked with a friend under a dripping umbrella. John Harvey was a skeptic of thirty years standing and apparently hardened in his unbelief. Everybody had given him up as hopeless. Reasoning ever so calmly made no impression on the rocky soil of his heart. Alas! it was sad, very sad!

But one friend had never given him up. When spoken to about him — "I will talk with and pray for that man until I die," he said, "and I will have faith that he may yet come out of darkness into the marvelous light."

And thus whenever he met him (John Harvey was always ready for a "talk"), Mr. Hawkins pressed home the truth. In answer, on that stormy night, he said: "God can change a skeptic John. He has more power over your heart than you, and I mean still to pray for you."

"Oh, I have no objections, none in the world — seeing is believing, you know. I'm ready for any miracle; but I tell you it would take nothing short of a miracle to convince me. Let's change the subject. I'm hungry and it's too far to go up town to supper on this stormy night. Here's a restaurant: let us stop here."

How warm and pleasant it looked in the long, brilliant dining saloon!

The two merchants had eaten and were just on the point of rising when a strain of soft music came through the open door — a child's sweet voice.

"Pon my word, that is pretty," said John Harvey, "what purity in those tones!"

"Out of here, you little baggage!" cried a hoarse voice, and one of the waiters pointed angrily to the door.

"Let her come in," said John Harvey.

"We don't allow them in this place, sir," said the waiter, "but she can go into the reading-room."

"Well, let her go somewhere. I want to hear her," responded the gentleman.

All this time the two had seen the shadow of something hovering backwards and forwards on the edge of the door; now they followed a slight little figure, wrapped in a patched cloak, patched hood, and leaving the mark of wet feet as she walked. Curious to see her face (she was very small), John Harvey lured her to the farthest part of the great room where there were but few gentlemen, and then motioned her to sing. The little one looked timidly up. Her cheek was of olive darkness, but a flush rested there, and out of the thinnest face, under the arch of broad

temples, deepened by masses of the blackest hair looked two eyes whose softness and tender pleading would have touched the hardest heart.

"That little thing is sick, I believe," said John Harvey, compassionately. "What do you sing, child?" he added.

"I sing Italian or a little English."

John Harvey looked at her shoes. "Why," he exclaimed, and his lips quivered, "her feet are wet to her ankles, she will catch her death of cold."

By this time the child had begun to sing, pushing back her hood, and folding before her her little thin fingers. Her voice was wonderful; and simple and common as were both air and words, the pathos of the tones drew together several of the merchants in the reading room. The little song commenced thus:

"There is a happy land,  
Far, far away."

Never could the voice, the manner, of that child be forgotten. There almost seemed a halo around her head; and when she had finished, her great speaking eyes turned toward John Harvey.

"Look here, child; where did you learn that song?" he asked.

"At the Sunday School, Sir."

"And you don't suppose there is a happy land?"

"I know there is; I'm going to sing there," she said, so quickly, so decidedly that the men looked at each other.

"Going to sing there?"

"Yes, Sir. Mother said so. She used to sing to me until she was very sick. Then she said she wasn't going to sing any more on earth, but up in heaven."

"Well — and what then?"

"And then she died, Sir," said the child; tears brimming down the dark cheek now ominously flushed scarlet.

John Harvey had had a praying mother. His chest labored for a moment — the sobs that struggled for utterance could be heard even in their depths — and still those large, soft, lustrous eyes, like magnets impelled his glance toward them.

"Child, you must have a pair of shoes." John Harvey's voice was husky.

Hands were thrust in pockets, purses pulled out, and the astonished child held in her little palm more money than she had ever seen before.

"Her father is a poor, consumptive organgrinder," whispered one. "I suppose he's too sick to be out tonight."

Along the soggy street went the child, under the protection of John Harvey, but not with shoes that drank the water at every step. Warmth and comfort were hers now. Down in the deep denlike lanes of the city walked the man, a little cold hand in his. At an



open door they stopped; up broken, creaking stairs they climbed. Another doorway was opened, and a wheezing voice called out the dim arch, "Carletta!"

"O Father! Father! See what I have brought you! Look at me! Look at me!" and down went the silver, and venting her joy, the poor child fell; crying the laughing together, into the old man's arms.

Was he a man?

A face dark and hollow, all overgrown with hair black as night and uncombed — a pair of wild eyes — a body bent nearly double — hands like claws.

"Did he give you all this, my child?"

"They all did, Father; now you shall have soup and oranges."

"Thank you, sir — I'm sick, you see — all gone, sir! — had to send the poor child out or we'd starve. God bless you, sir! I wish I was well enough to play you a tune," and he looked wistfully towards the corner where stood the old organ, baize — covered, the baize in tatters.

One month after that the two men met again as if by agreement, and walked slowly down town. Treading innumerable passages they came to the gloomy building where lived Carletta's father.

No — not lived there, for as they paused a moment out came two or three men bearing a pine coffin. In the coffin slept the old organ-grinder.

"It was very sudden, sir," said a woman, who recognized his benefactor. "Yesterday the little girl was took sick and it seemed as if he drooped right away. He died at six last night."

The two men went silently up stairs. The room was empty of everything save a bed, a chair and a nurse provided by John Harvey. The child lay there, not white but pale as marble, with a strange polish on her brow.

"Well my little one, are you better?"

"Oh no, sir; Father is gone up there and I am going."

Up THERE! John Harvey turned unconsciously towards his friend.

"Did you ever hear of Jesus?" asked John Harvey's friend.

"Oh yes."

"Do you know who he was?"

"Good Jesus," murmured the child.

"Hawkins, this breaks me down," said John Harvey and he placed his handkerchief to his eyes.

"Don't cry, don't cry; I can't cry, I'm so glad," said the child exultingly.

"What are you glad for, my dear?" asked John Harvey's friend.

"To get away from here," she said deliberately. "I used to be so cold in the winter, for we didn't have fire sometimes; but Mother

used to hug me close and sing about heaven. Mother told me to never mind and kissed me and said if I was His, the Savior would love me and one of these days would give me a better home, and so I gave myself to Him, for I wanted a better home. And, oh, I shall sing there and be so happy!"

With a sigh she closed her eyes.

"Harvey, are faith and hope nothing?" asked Mr. Hawkins.

"Don't speak to me, Hawkins; to be as that little child I would give all I have."

"And to be like her you need give nothing — only your stubborn will, your skeptical doubts, and the heart that will never know rest till at the feet of Christ."

There was no answer. Presently the hands moved, the arms were raised, the eyes opened — yet, glazed though they were they turned still upward.

"See!" she cried; "Oh, there is Mother! and angels! and they are all singing." Her voice faltered, but the celestial brightness lingered yet on her face.

"There is no doubting the soul-triumph there," whispered Mr. Hawkins.

"It is wonderful," replied John Harvey, looking on both in awe and tenderness. "Is she gone?"

He sprang from his chair as if he would detain her; but the chest and forehead were marble now, the eyes had lost the fire of life; she must have died as she lay looking at them.

"She was always a sweet little thing," said the nurse softly.

John Harvey stood as if spellbound. There was a touch on his arm; he started.

"John," said his friend, with an affectionate look, "shall we pray?"

"For a minute there was no answer — then came tears; the whole frame of the subdued skeptic shook as he said — it was almost a cry: "Yes, pray, pray!"

And from the side of the dead child went up agonizing pleadings to the throne of God. And that prayer was answered — the miracle was wrought — the lion became a lamb — the doubter a believer — the skeptic a Christian!

A Tract

Children's Edition of TOUCHING INCIDENTS AND  
REMARKABLE ANSWERS TO PRAYER

Selected by Sister Mary Lou Kasza

God bless all who read this story that was so special to me. It's one of forty stories that has such a marvelous message. This book has stories dating back to 1800's and I'm glad it's still available today.

## OBITUARY

### MARY BROADWATER

Sis. Mary Martha Broadwater, 82, of 307 Avirett Avenue, Cumberland, Maryland, formerly of R. 1, Barton, Maryland, died April 21, 1984 at Sacred Heart Hospital, Cumberland, Maryland.

Born at Bond, Maryland in Garrett County, she was the daughter of the late Ephraim and Ida (Rounds) Broadwater. She was baptized on September 23, 1917 and was a member of Broadwater Chapel.

Preceded in death by her husband Gus Broadwater, she is survived by a son, Gerald Broadwater of Peachtree City, Georgia and a daughter, Mrs. Freda Hatfield of Cumberland, Maryland. Three brothers, Darius Broadwater, Edison Broadwater and Marshall Broadwater all of Westernport, Maryland. A sister, Mrs. Lucinda Clark of Gilmore, Maryland. Also eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by Elder Paul Myers at the Boal Funeral Home in Westernport, Maryland on Tuesday, April 24, 1984, with interment in Philos Cemetery in Westernport.



True fortitude is seen in great exploits that justice warrants and that wisdom guides. - Addison.



Gambling is the child of avarice, the brother of iniquity, and the father of mischief. - Washington



All gaming, since it implies a desire to profit at the expense of others, involves a breach of the tenth commandment. - Whately



## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JUNE, 1984

### OF THE EARTH

Memory Verse: Psa. 67:4

O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon the earth.

Fri. 1 - Psa. 67:1-7

Sat. 2 - Psa. 68:1-17

Memory Verse: Psa. 72:19

And blessed be his glorious name forever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

Sun. 3 - Psa. 68:18-35

Mon. 4 - Psa. 69:1-18

Tue. 5 - Psa. 69:19-36

Wed. 6 - Psa. 71:1-24

Thur. 7 - Psa. 72:1-20

Fri. 8 - Psa. 73:1-28

Sat. 9 - Psa. 74:1-23

Memory Verse: Psa. 73:25

Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

Sun. 10 - Psa. 75:1-10

Mon. 11 - Psa. 76:1-12

Tue. 12 - Psa. 77:1-20

Wed. 13 - Psa. 78:1-25

Thur. 14 - Psa. 78:26-51

Fri. 15 - Psa. 78:52-72

Sat. 16 - Psa. 79:1-13

Memory Verse: Psa. 76:8 & 9

Thou didst cause judgement to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still, When God arose to judgment, to save all the meek of the earth.

Sun. 17 - Psa. 82:1-8

Mon. 18 - Psa. 83:1-18

Tue. 19 - Psa. 85:1-13

Wed. 20 - Psa. 89:1-25

Thur. 21 - Psa. 89:26-52

Fri. 22 - Psa. 90:1-17

Sat. 23 - Psa. 94:1-23

Memory Verse: Psa. 89:11

The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine: as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them.

Sun. 24 - Psa. 95:1-11

Mon. 25 - Psa. 96:1-13

Tue. 26 - Psa. 97:1-12

Wed. 27 - Psa. 98:1-9

Thur. 28 - Psa. 99:1-9

Fri. 29 - Psa. 102:1-28

Sat. 30 - Psa. 103:1-22

Memory Verses: Psa. 96:9

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

Psa. 102:25-28

Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end. The children of thy servants shall continue, and their seed shall be established before thee.

Lester Fisher  
4664 N. State Rte. 48  
Covington, OH 45318

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

JUNE 1, 1984

NO. 11

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## O LOVE THAT WILT NOT LET ME GO

O love that wilt not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give Thee back the life I owe,  
That in Thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O light that fol'west all my way,  
I yield my flick'ring torch to Thee;  
My heart restores its borrow'd ray,  
That in Thy sunshine's glow its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me thro' pain,  
I cannot close my heart to Thee;  
I trace the rainbow thro' the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain  
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from Thee,  
I say in dust life's glory dead,  
And from the ground there blossoms read  
Life that shall endless be.

— George Matheson

## THE FAMILY OF GOD

In his second epistle, John writes to one identified only as the "elect lady." This has led some to speculate about who this individual might be. Others have considered this to be a congregation not an individual. While either view may be correct it would seem this picture of the woman and her children would better fit a congregation rather than an individual.

John, the Apostle of love, sees this group bound together like a family. He speaks of the love that cements them together. That cement is applicable not only for a congregation but all who believe and practice as the Word of God dictates. He is concerned not only with love but also with truth. John is always careful above all things that the truth be preserved. Throughout First John, he desires them to believe and follow the record God has given of His Son. He desires that this would lead to righteous living which would reflect the light of the Gospel. John sees issues in "black or white," "either/or," not in "grey" or in compromise. His ideal of love is not a compromised love but a working, orthodox love.

John had no new commandments to write to them but a repetition of the familiar old commandment to love one another. Christianity is not a system of new commandments to meet new times and new social situations. Christianity is the same, settled set of old commandments that are able to meet the situation no matter how old or new. It is in that which is tried and true that will prove direction in the time of crisis.

Although there is much rebellion against absolutes, still it is in the absolutes that a firm foundation is laid that will allow the building of a faith and love that will withstand the pressures of this life. If Christians do not build upon the absolutes of the Christian faith, they will find in trial and temptation that their faith will not

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stand. The shifting sands of earthly philosophies will not provide a strong enough foundation to endure.

The commands for Christians to follow are the ones given from the beginning by Jesus and His Apostles. The New Testament is the Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit, whether given originally in the words of Jesus or in the writings of the Apostles. It is all the equal authority. It is all God's Word. It behooves the Christian to know this from the beginning.

Too often we associate the commands of New Testament with works. But John associates them with love. Love is an emotion that is difficult to define. It cannot be seen or known except through the deeds prompted by love. Just as faith cannot be recognized except by the works it prompts, so love, likewise, must be shown to be known. God has given commandments to be done so our love can be expressed. This is our love, first toward Him, and secondly toward others. We remember that He loved us and gave His Son for our salvation even when we were altogether unlovely and sinful. Now we can extend the same kind of love to others. God's love was proven through the gift of His Son; our love is shown through following His commands.

John is concerned about the purity of the doctrine of the Church. He is especially concerned about how people believe about Jesus. He must be accepted as the Son of God. He is the Second Person of the Trinity. He is God and yet He dwelt here as man to become the perfect sacrifice for our sins. We must have this perfect basis for our Christian lives.

As the time for General Conference approaches let us meditate upon what the family of God has. We have a perfect Saviour whose love is the basis for our love. He has given us a way of life that is love demonstrated through obedience. He has given us a doctrine that is tried and true and able to support us in the midst of stress and storm.

As the family of God let us be thankful for what we have received. Let us live out what we know. Let us love not in word alone but in deed. Let us be drawn together as those who know and practice love and truth.



Hardening of the sympathies is worse than hardening of the arteries.

## CONFERENCE

There is a special time  
To all the Dunkards you know,  
They all look forward to its coming  
As soon as there is no more winter's snow.  
It only comes once a year  
Around the month of June.  
Traveling in various ways  
Bus, car, plane, and train too.  
The ministers bring the messages  
To each and every heart  
Touching souls along the way  
But you must do your part.  
This is a special time  
To show your love in singing,  
Soprano, alto, tenor, and bass  
As the melody is loudly ringing.  
A day does not go by  
When on our knees we pray  
For the ministers and elders  
And those who are unsaved.  
As the meetings draw to a close  
We find our cups over flowing.  
To our new friends and old  
Farewell we are bidding.  
We part with all our friends  
By the Lord's will we know  
We shall meet again next year  
Or in our eternal home.

In Christian love,  
Sister Mabel L. Sweitzer



Christians never see each other for the last time.

## THY WORD IS TRUTH

Colossians 1:5 "For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye have heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel."

Our final source of truth is the Holy Bible. Many limit the gospel to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, but we believe the complete gospel includes all of the teachings within the New Testament. This is God's full and final revelation. Much of the New Testament is no longer popular in the earthly church of today. It is much more in vogue to INTERPRET scripture than to OBEY it. This is not to say that some scriptures must be understood within their context without the aid of other scriptures or that all Christians will always believe exactly alike. We admit that there are some scriptures that are hard to explain both in the Old and the New Testament. These are the ones the cults choose to confuse the unwary. We used to believe the rule, "if it is not found in more than one portion of scripture it is not to be made binding." But we came to realize that such truths as the prayer veiling are only found once in scripture. However, the basic principle on which it is based, that women are to be in subjection to the man, is found in many scriptures.

In II Timothy 2:15 we read, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Many today are following Luther, Calvin, Scofield or some other past or present teacher rather than scripture. We would ask, are we following Alexander Mack and his spiritual descendants or Jesus Christ? If our belief is based on Brethren history then our following is in vain. But we believe, for the most part, that we can follow the Holy Scriptures and be right in line with what our Brethren forefathers taught.

Along with our Brethren forefathers, we believe that the Bible is true from Genesis to Revelation. We feel it is no less than compromise to try to make evolution and creation compatible by teaching theistic evolution. We believe that God called out a people to himself through Abraham and that he blessed the Jews in a special way. We also believe Nehemiah 9:7-8 where it states that God chose Abraham and brought him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees and made a covenant with him to give him a certain portion of the land. Then, according to these verses, God "hast performed thy words: "We see no reason to make God's promise to Abraham a future event.

We realize that some of our conservative Brethren will see scripture in a different light than we do. We feel we must be careful



in being overly dogmatic in many areas of scripture, especially prophecy. This is one area where we feel much unnecessary division has come within the church. But we have found that, in most cases, it is those who are following the teachings of Scofield rather than the historic Brethren thinking that are most dogmatic in their beliefs. This is why the majority of writing by conservative Brethren concerning prophecy is "Scofield" oriented. While we feel Christian love and charity towards these individuals, we also feel a need to present "the other side" of the issue. While we are on this subject, we would like to share something we never "saw" in scripture before, although we have read it many times. In Acts 2:30-31 we have found, what to us is, a wonderful truth. We quote, "Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on this throne;" (this speaking of David), "He seeing this before spake OF THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption." With all due respect for those who disagree, we can see no reason for making this a future event, when Peter, through the power of the Holy Spirit, said it was fulfilled.

In James 1:18 we read, "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures." The written word complements the Living Word, Jesus Christ. We cannot separate the one from the other. The written word tells us of Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ "spoke" the written word through the Holy Spirit. We also believe that much scripture is "explained away" in order to please the flesh. It is not popular in most Christian circles today to be different from the world. We want to hold on to those things that are pleasing to us. While many want to look like the world and still serve Christ, we have to be careful that our attitude and inner thoughts are pure also. We are slow to judge who is saved and who is not. We let this in the hands of God. But we cannot read scripture without seeing open disobedience within the earthly church.

While the earthly church is not perfect, it is God's choice to offer salvation. If you do not belong to the true Church, by being born again and baptized, we invite you to become a member. This is the only way you can have life eternal according to the word of God. We invite you to accept the Living Word, Jesus Christ and follow the written Word, the Holy Bible, for truly His Word is Truth.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St., Palmyra, PA 17078

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "TELLING GOD'S STORY IN SATAN'S WORLD"

We are living in the age of advanced scientific information and it is interesting to note that 95% of all the scientists who have ever lived are alive today. The proliferation of written and verbal materials coming from these men have created questions relating to science, creation and discovery. This is also the age when people are working for a one-world "super-church." There can be no real unity within this group because it is trying to form and grow without the Head. There is no true doctrine and the basis for their formation is for social enterprise and social advancement. Efforts are now underway to merge the Roman Catholics and the Protestants and also to include worshipers of Buddha, Confucius and Mohammed. Most modernists lump all of these men together for their contributions to world "religion."

Paul writes in Colossians 1:18 that Christ "is the head of the body, the church . . ." Certainly, He is not going to head these apostatizing citizens of eternal punishment. These people deny absolutes from God's Word and are opting for relatives. All authority is suspect. Nothing continues to be sacred. Every man develops his own "philosophy" and his religion centers around the human mind where there are no absolutes, just self-made ethics, self-made experiences and ungodly ethics.

People are looking for the sensational and the sensual. They are drawn to transcendental meditation, yoga and similar mental arts because they think these experiences will enable them to see themselves and "whatever reality exists" more clearly. The truth is not necessarily sought out. . . only the answer to whether something works or not to provide this exhilarating experience.

I believe people are asking many questions that we as Bible believing Christians need to be able to answer today and answer them confidently and competently. "Will Christ really change my life?" "Can I find true peace in Jesus?" "Will I find the real meaning to life if I give myself to Christ?" "Is there really power in Him?" To these questions we can offer absolutes. Christ is the "image of the invisible God." (Col. 1:15) He CAN change us and make us holy. God's Word says we are given a NEW capacity to practice "tender mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering. Each desire of man for this life can be made possible through accepting Jesus with His teachings and being born again with WATER BAPTISM.

Most people want meaningful and fulfilling relationships, yet most are lonely and unfulfilled today. They have a difficult, if not impossible time of trying to build their marriages, their families and



their careers. Their ONLY hope is in Jesus. TELL THEM! Study the book of Colossians as it is an issue solving book. It tells us how to rescue impossible relationships through Christ.

Current books such as "1984", "Future Shock" and "The Population Bomb" have made many people aware of the fragile state of this planet and the fact that secular man is on a collision course with ultimate disaster. But this does not worry the Christian and we can share the beauty of scriptures such as: "Giving thanks unto the Father, who hath made us fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints . . ." and "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye (the Christian) appear with him in glory." Christ is the only and eternal solution to the problems of man. Tell the story well . . . of Him being the true head of the church, of Him being the Creator and Sustainer of this world and of being the ONLY gate of entry into heaven. He DOES change lives, give joy, love and peace as well as forgiveness. He is all sufficient and will give a new capacity for living life to the fullest. He is our Hope, our reason for living, our coming King. The message must get out to this generation. Will you accept the challenge of telling the story?

Brother Leonard Wertz

## LIFE GOES ON

An elderly man from this area recently died after being severely burned. His old bicycle still leans against the side of his small mobile home where he left it in April. He used to sit in his lawn swing near the road, but that too is just as he left it, never to be used by him anymore. For this man, his life is over on this earth, and he has passed on to meet his Maker. The record of his life is complete, but for the rest of us, life goes on.

Whenever someone dies, much of the world continues on as if nothing had changed. Few people take notice, except those who are friends or relatives of the deceased. Death is accepted as a part of life — as long as it happens to someone else. Yet, we all must face it someday. In the meantime, life goes on, and the question each of us must answer is "What will I do with my life?"

What will you do with your life? Are you living just for this moment? If your life were suddenly interrupted by illness or an accident, would you be ready for death if it came? If you have focused all your attention on what you could have in this life, you are not ready for death. If you have not made peace with God, putting it off may mean that you will never have the opportunity to do so. It's what you are doing and can do right now that you must consider, not what you hope to do in the future.

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and



then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live and do this, or that." Jas. 4:14-15. Your plans for today ought to be centered around God's will, not your own will. For however long your life goes on, your time ought to be used for the Lord.

The rich man said, "I will pull down my barns, and build greater. ...Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry." But God said, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee." This man planned for everything but for Eternity, and now he had been notified that his time was almost up. There is more to life than things, but that's all he had, because he had left God out. Read Luke 12:16-23.

For the people around this man, life continued on, but his was over. They might have learned from his foolishness and included God in their plans, but for him, it was too late. Have you learned from his mistake? If so, seek God's direction in your life now while there is time. Include Him in every aspect of your life, and you will be free of regrets when it ends.

Life goes on in one way or another, be it for good or ill. People come and go, they tend to their duties sometimes carelessly, other times diligently. It is so easy in the busyness of life to concentrate on this earthly existence only, forgetting that Eternity is before us. Then is when life really goes on. There's nothing wrong with prosperity and diligence in this life, but life doesn't end here — except for the unsaved.

"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matt. 16:26. At this moment, you may be entirely satisfied with your life. You may think you have plenty of time to get serious later on, but there's no need to be in a hurry. The time will come when you will wish you had considered God and your soul's need, so why wait? Do it now while you can and be sure you are at peace with God, so your life can truly go on!

Sister Eileen Broadwater



Let prayer be our portion, past-time, passion and practice.



Some people pray and talk cream but live on skimmed milk.

**SIXTY YEARS AGO****June 1, 1924****WHY RESIST THE CURRENT?****B. E. Kesler**

Men who venture to take a stand in opposition to what the majority of their fellows do, lay themselves open to attack; and they must not hope to escape. Majorities are not always right, and they often show little regard for the rights of minorities.

In these days it seems that most persons have broken loose from their moorings and are going with the tide. There is not much that is considered improper or forbidden to those professing to have taken up the cross of Christ and to have entered on the way of self-denial. If questioned about it, not a few will reply that nobody believes in those ideas anymore, that they have but once to live and intend to get out of life all they can in pleasure. The tide is set that way, and there is no use to resist it.

Such persons must have taken an unconsidered step when they entered the church and promised to turn away from evil and live faithful until the end of life. At various times in the past nineteen centuries there has been this breaking loose, this denial of the faith. Following each departure from the Lord there even comes at least a partial return but never a return of a whole body that went astray. If God were to withdraw from men as men do from him, it would not be long until there would be much lamenting and repenting; for man cannot live without God.

All know that there are two contending powers in the world. There never have been and never can be more. The one makes for righteousness and the other for unrighteousness. The one leads to life eternal in our Father's house; the other leads to outer darkness and death. Day by day we draw nearer to life or to death. There is no middle course.

How often we hear the expression, "What's the use?" And it is almost invariably uttered as an excuse for not doing the thing known to be right or doing the thing known to be wrong. Very few, if they would stop for even a moment's earnest consideration would say this. God has not left himself without a witness in our hearts. We know that there is much use in obeying the Word. Without obedience it is impossible to please God, for He desires obedience rather than sacrifice. No blessing is promised to the disobedient.

Some thoughtlessly ask what's the use resisting or trying to swim against the current. And some no doubt think that there is no use for man to try to resist the tendency of his age. It would be a useless and hopeless expenditure of effort if man were to try to

do so alone or in his own strength. The Master said, "Without me ye can do nothing." And one of the faithful said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

There are many and good reasons for resisting the current and refusing to allow ourselves to be carried away by it. The current is evil, and we are commanded to resist evil. Looking at it from the purely human standpoint of what man alone can do, there is no use resisting; for when we let go of Christ the devil easily overpowers us. And the only real letting go of him is refusing or neglecting to obey him. His "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," has a condition attached to it. Every promise in the Book is a conditional promise.

For several generations our people successfully resisted the current; and then they began to weaken, and they seem to be swimming with the current. There are numerous exceptions, but the majority are no longer trying to keep themselves unspotted by the evils of the world. Have they lost their faith in God or his Son? Or have they lost faith in the Bible? Is their treasure laid up on earth, that they have ceased to take as much interest as at first in heavenly things? Or have they wandered from the fold and so fallen an easy prey to man's greatest enemy? Something of vital importance has been lost.

It is surprising how weak the faith of many has become. It is difficult to tell who believes as he professes, for on all sides we see men whom we had believed to be strong falling before the enemy. These are indeed perilous times. Whether they are the ones foretold for the last days we do not know; but the result is the same for those who allow themselves to be led away from the narrow way. And the fault is their own. If they had remained true no power in the universe would have been able to pluck them out of the Father's hand.

It is better to be strong in the Lord and the power of His might. All His power is at our disposal if we but place ourselves in such an attitude that it can flow from Him to and through us. He is the power station, the only one that never runs short of power and can always supply all lawful demands made upon it. It is His command that we should resist the current of evil which ever threatens to carry away the unwary. To be carried away by the current means eternal loss; and this is why we are commanded to come out from the world and be separate. God help us to obey this command until life's end.



The greatest oak was once a little nut that held its ground.



## **THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, THE BODY AND BRIDE OF THE LORD**

WILLIAM ROOT

Now, our subject, "The Church." First, "What The Church IS NOT." (1) It is not a continuation of the Jewish Dispensation, but is a new Dispensation, the New Dispensation of Grace. The church is not under Moses and the Law, but under Christ and the Gospel of God's Grace. (2) It is not a fleshly kingdom, but a Spiritual Kingdom.

Our Second Proposition is, "What the Church is." (1) It is compared to a "House" (Spiritual House). I Tim. 3:15, "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." This does not mean a material building, built by man. It is a Spiritual building of doctrine, faith and practice, which is built upon Christ, who is Truth, upon the "Solid Rock" Himself, His Word.

(2) It is compared to a temple. Christ was prophesied as the builder of that "Temple", Zech. 6:12-13. This Word has often been quoted by the writer upon this subject and we use it again, "And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The Branch; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord:" The Branch is Christ. He came to earth, grew up, on earth, His place was in Heaven, while here He built the "Temple of the Lord, the Church," and is still building it. "Even he shall build the temple of the Lord; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." To the writer this means Christ would build the "Temple of the Lord, the Church," would bear the glory of it, or for it, that He would "sit and rule upon His Throne," over His Spiritual Kingdom, the Church, when He comes back to receive it, and to rule upon His Throne, His sanctified Throne here on earth. Even NOW He sits at His Father's right hand ruling over His Spiritual Priesthood, the Church here on earth. He is our "High Priest" even now. "The counsel of Peace" is between Christ and the Church, the Spiritual "Temple."

(3) Furthermore the "Church is an In-Dwelling Temple," symbolized as dwelling in the temporal bodies of His Spiritual Believers. I Cor. 3:16-17, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God? and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God (his temporal body), him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy (His house of worship) which temple ye are." Hence our bodies are symbols of God's holy Temple and are

to be kept clean and pure in His sight, just as the Church is also to be kept pure and white in His sight. Therefore the "Church is a Place of Worship," symbolized by Jacob's experience at "Bethel." A place to meet the Lord, Jacob called it "The House of God," Gen. 28:22-23.

(4) The "Church is a Body of Called Out Believers in Christ." An "Ecclesia", consisting of an assembly of people, of like faith, human instrumentalities. I Cor. 12:27, "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." This shows it to be a visible body, consisting of many members. Rom. 12:5, "So we being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." The writer does not believe that this one "body of Christ" is one body of people, a large assembly of people, consisting of the many church bodies of professed Christian believers, and not possessors of Christ's doctrine, one of which Christ will select His "Bride." They are every one members "one of another," in "unity" in faith, in doctrine and in practice.

(5) "Christ is the Head of the Church." Eph. 1:22-23, "And hath put all things under his feet and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all." This text is plain; that the Church is the body of Christ, and that He is the head of the body. To sever the head from the body would leave a dead body, a non-living body, not Christ's body at all. A body without Christ's faith, doctrine and practice. Eph. 4:12, "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ!" Col. 1:24, "Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the Church." To deny that the church is Christ's body, is to deny the words of Paul here. Col. 2:19, "And not holding the head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God."

(6) "The Church is the Bride of Christ," Not Yet Married. Eph. 5:23-32, For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is head of the church; and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husband in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the



church. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they too shall be made one flesh. This is a great mystery; but I speak concerning Christ and the church." In these verses we have the relationship of Christ and His Church. Christ as the husband and the Church his Wife, or Bride. That Christ loves her, the Church, just as a husband should love his wife and they are one. That the church also are the members of the one body, Christ's, "body of His flesh and of His bones."

We have said that the Marriage is not yet consummated, or has not yet taken place. For proof of this we give you the following. II Cor. 11:2, "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." This shows the "espousal of the Bride" (the Church) to the Christ (the Bridegroom). Their Marriage is to take place in Heaven. Also Rom. 7:4, "Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God." Language could not make this plainer than the wording here, that the Body (the Church) "should be married to another" and is not yet married to another. This showing that the Marriage is not yet consummated. Christ the Bridegroom chose His Bride while here in the world. Jno. 3:29, "He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled." John the Baptist knew the Bridegroom, "who hath the Bride."

By and by the "Bridegroom" is coming back for His "Bride." All His invited guests to the wedding, will not be prepared to go in unto the Marriage. Matt. 25:6, "And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." Dear reader I want to be at that wedding, when Christ is married to the Bride, which is His Church. Rev. 19:7, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready." Rev. 21:9-10, "And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God."

The Church is symbolized as the "New Jerusalem" A Prepared City, for a prepared "Bride" for the "Bridegroom." She will be adorned in righteousness. Rev. 21:2, "And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a



bride adorned for her husband."

This will be the Triumphant, Everlasting, Heavenly Kingdom of God. This after that Christ has delivered up the Kingdom (Church) to His Father. I Cor. 15:24-25, "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet." Eph. 1:20-23, "Which he (the Father) wrought in Christ, when he raised him (Christ) from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places. Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church. Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."

To Be Continued

Selected by Joseph Lavy

## NEWS ITEMS

### MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Mechanicsburg Congregation extends an invitation to come and worship with us from June 22 to July 1, 1984. We plan to have Brother Ronald Marks with us to preach the Gospel. Please pray for these service.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.

### BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

Revival meetings were held in the Bethel Congregation March 18 to April 1 with Bro. Fred Pifer, Dallas Center, Iowa as our evangelist. Bro. Fred brought to us many inspiring messages, admonishing us of our love and work to the church, to the home and family, and to the world.

We were happy for the five precious souls who gave their hearts and lives to Christ at this time.

Sis. Diane and children were with us during these meetings and we enjoyed their visits and fellowship. May the Lord bless Bro. Fred as he ministers and labors in the Master's service.

Lovefeast services were held April 29 with the following ministering brethren: Laverne Keeney, Jack Snyder, Ronald Marks, Rudy Shaffer. Presiding Elder Allen Eberly officiated in the evening.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## NEVER ALONE

I go through many hardships  
And walk in many trials  
Never once was I by myself  
Throughout the numerous miles.

I have worked in the heat of the day  
And wearied myself to the bone  
Not once did He leave me  
No I'm never alone.

It may seem my burden is heavy,  
But He will gladly carry His share,  
For He never will leave me,  
I'm always in His care.

If I get lost by the wayside  
He will call me back to the path  
For He is always at my side  
Never once showing His wrath.

Christ is with me each step of the way,  
Guiding me to His Heavenly Home  
Just trusting in Him  
He'll never leave me alone.

In Christian Love,  
Sister Mabel L. Sweitzer



## FAIRY TALES

Children are especially entertained by fairy tales. These stories are very imaginative and miraculous. They are set in situations far from reality and include talking animals, flying people and narrow escapes. While they sometimes have a worthwhile moral to teach, most often they are childish entertainment.

As we grow up from childhood through adolescence into adulthood we learn to leave behind fairy tales, and become men and women with the power of discernment. Although most people do grow up physically and mentally, many do not make a similar progression spiritually.

While adults would not be comfortable playing children's games or listening to children's fairy tales, still they accept fairy tales in place of the Gospel. Many today are not even familiar with true New Testament Christianity. They do not know what privileges and responsibilities are given the Christian. Most, if they have any interest at all, have only a false idea of the teachings that are given to the Church.

The pagan adaptations and worldly festivities of Catholicism and worldly Protestantism are the usual concepts believed and followed by the overwhelming majority. The broad way is full of the ignorant, uncaring and duped. They go full speed downward either ignoring the Word of God entirely or only believing it half-heartedly or refusing to go beyond a mental assent to the existence of Jesus as a Great Teacher.

The Christian has a faith that produces works as well as words. It is a faith based, not on fairy tales or cunningly devised fables but on the Word of God. To place one's faith for his salvation on fairy tales is not only absurd but dangerous. To believe and follow a fairy tale will lead to eternal loss so it is important to base that faith

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****JUNE 15, 1984**

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on the truth. The inspired Word of God will not lead anyone astray although it will direct in ways contrary to human understanding.

Popular Christianity has practically become a fairy tale itself. While good words about God and Jesus are voiced, there is very little application of the Word of God in daily lives. The one-day-a-week Christian has become a fairy tale character himself. Going to Church on Sunday — if not too inconvenient — but living as his neighbors do the other six.

Other myths and fairy tales have grown up to the extent that they are accepted by a public, that does not read or know the Bible, as representative Christianity. Their concept is that Church membership is having one's name written on a register not in the Lamb's Book of Life. They hear of a "faith only" gospel that calls forth no great commitment because eternal life is promised through "eternal security." If baptism is even thought of it is merely a custom of no great importance. If it is performed, it is by sprinkling, pouring or immersion short of trine immersion for the remission of sins.

If there is enough union in these fairy tale churches to hold a communion service, it is an abbreviated daytime exercise that only mocks the Lovefeast service commanded by the Lord. Footwashing has nearly disappeared, The Lord's Supper is no longer a meal but a misnomer for the bread and cup. The communion of the bread and the cup has been individualized instead of being common.

Without commitment the fairy tale Christian continues to live as he did before and as his neighbors still do. He has the same social life as before and continues in the same habits. He is rebellious against any admonition or rule that would mean a change in his life. He is especially upset if required to change his usual manner of dress. He still wants to have his hair long, his chest bare and his legs showing. His companion will have cut and curled hair, which would be unsuitable for a prayer covering to be worn over, if indeed there was any desire toward doing so. She will have her face painted with the most fashionable cosmetics. Her clothes, what there are of them, will be form revealing and probably cut in imitation of men's clothing. She will not be a "keeper at home" nor will she greatly reverence her husband.

The fairy tale of liberty to do as one pleases and still remain as a child of God has led many to destruction. When people are reared in ignorance of the Bible and raised on the myth of evolution it is little wonder they do not know or recognize the true marks of Christianity.

Because we know and follow the Word of God we have a godly duty to live according to what we know. We dare not yield to the fairy tales around us, we must be firmly builded upon God's Word.

## DOES DADDY GO?

Daddy had a little boy  
His soul was white as snow  
He never went to Sunday School  
Cause Daddy wouldn't go.  
He never heard the words of God  
That thrills the childish mind;  
While other children went to class  
This child was left behind.  
As he grew from babe to youth,  
Dad saw to his dismay  
A soul that once was snowy white  
Became a dingy grey.  
When he saw his son was lost  
He tried to win him back;  
But now the soul that once was white  
Had turned an ugly black.  
At last Dad started back to church  
And Bible Study too;  
He even begged the preacher  
To see what he could do.  
The preacher tried, failed and said  
We're just too far behind;  
I tried to tell you years ago,  
But you would pay no mind.  
And so, another soul was lost,  
Instead of white as snow  
Sunday School may have changed his life  
But daddy wouldn't go.

-Author Unknown  
Selected by Sister Jeanne Sines





## STANDING ON THE ROCK

I Peter 2:7-8, "Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed."

Another version renders the last part of this verse, "and to this doom they were also appointed." We believe that the word "disobedient" makes it clear that there was individual free will involved and that this verse is not teaching Calvinistic predestination.

The "stone" or "rock" to which these verses refer to is, of course, the Lord Jesus Christ. In Matthew 7:24-27 we have the parable, which the children like to sing, about the wise man who built his house upon the rock and the foolish man who built his house upon the sand. With these thoughts in mind, we would like to think about four types of "faith" that are to be found in the earthly church.

The first type we would like to look at is the "religionists." This brand of "faith" would have you believe that all religious are ways to God. The vast majority of those who follow political pacifism teach this type of "faith." The Fellowship of Reconciliation is one of the major groups in this category. This type of thinking is definitely "building on the sand." We agree with their emphasis of feeding the hungry and clothing the naked along with striving to live in peace with all men. But if these actions are not done to bring honour and glory to Jesus Christ, they are done in vain.

The second type of "faith" we wish to look at is those who call themselves "christians" (nominal). Certainly we should not be ashamed to be labeled a Christian. But many who claim this title do not deserve it. They accept Christ as the best example to follow but they see no need to affirm the cardinal truths concerning him. They, also, only follow those teachings that appeal to them and explain the rest away. We are not sure if the World and National Council of Churches fits best into this category or the first one mentioned. Since both are "built upon the sand" it makes little difference. We feel the cults would fall somewhere in this category. Many involved in them are not only building on "sand" but are actually building on "quicksand." It is easier to reach an individual who has no faith at all than one who has fallen victim to a false faith. Along with this the old saying that "a little bit of knowledge is dangerous," holds true here also. Many feel secure because they have their name on the church role somewhere. While we believe you cannot separate "the Church" and Jesus Christ, you can belong to a denomination or group and never experience the new birth.

The next group we wish to look at is the one that causes us the most concern. This is the type of "faith" which involves those we label as "believers." Unlike the previous groups they affirm the need to believe in all the cardinal doctrines concerning Jesus Christ. These include the virgin birth, the sinless life, the blood shed for our sins, the bodily resurrection, the ascension to Heaven, and His coming again. They are certainly "building on the rock." And yet, in another sense, Jesus Christ is a "stone of stumbling and rock of offence" to them. We cannot put all "believers" in one box, so to speak. For this includes many and various individuals and groups. For some the "stumbling" is Christ's teaching on Biblical nonresistance. They either explain away this scriptural truth or try to give it to supposed "tribulation Jews." For others it is the scriptural teaching (which Jesus Christ "spoke" through the Holy Spirit) concerning dress and conduct. We prefer to leave this group in the hands of God. We do not wish to either assure them of salvation or reject them as fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

The last type of "faith" we wish to look at is that which we label "followers." The group which accepts this type of "faith" acknowledges all the truths held by the "believers" but goes beyond this. They desire to follow all the teachings and commandments within Holy Scripture. They are more concerned with obedience than interpretation. They take such verses at Matthew 7:21 "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven," very seriously. They are willing to be different from the world and accept the ridicule that often accompanies this. Much of this ridicule comes from within the earthly church. Sometimes even more so than from the world. At the same time they must admit that there is a real testimony given by being different from the world. We have often asked how many sisters properly veiled are seen in bar rooms or with a cigarette in their mouth? The answer of course is none. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said concerning "brothers" in plain suits. We are also not saying that some women do not live clean lives who do not practice wearing the prayer veil. The testimony is only a "by-product." The reason for wearing it is to be true to scripture.

If you are building "on sand" or have never enjoyed the blessing of receiving the Rock, Jesus Christ, as your Lord and Savior we invite you to join the "followers" today. You can join all the Saints in singing "Rock of Ages, Cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee." Jesus Christ built His Church on the rock which was Himself. Repent and be baptized into this Church and Heaven is yours if you remain faithful until death.

Brother James M. Hite  
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## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Living CALM in the '80's

Mark 4 contains a beautiful story about Jesus calming the sea which was fully in turmoil because of a great storm. We find our Lord teaching His disciples a practical lesson. It is one thing to talk about calmness and to exercise faith in the time of real danger. Here was a visible answer of the harsh environment to Jesus' command, "Peace, be still." Such teaching produced a wonderful effect upon the lives of these men.

Within Jesus there was a great calm and this was to come streaming from Him on this occasion. Because there was a calm in Christ for Himself, there was afterwards a calm for others.

Jesus had perfect confidence in God. The waves could roar and the winds rage, but He was not at all disquieted by their fury. He knew that the waters were in the hollow of His Father's hand, and that every wind was just the breath of His Father's mouth. He could be at ease. Rest came because of confidence in God. What an example this is for us. We don't have half the confidence in God that we should have. The Lord deserves our unbounded belief, our unquestioning confidence and our undisturbed reliance. We need to totally surrender to Him.

Sometimes we question our right to expect deliverance even though we don't doubt that Jesus is the Son of God and has the power to deliver. We must have the full assurance of our sonship if we are to be at peace with God and exhibit the calmness of a confident Christian.

Jesus left the total problem with God. If you would set a watchman to guard your home wouldn't you sleep confidently? We have a watchman looking over us and still we fear. We are taught to cast all of our burdens on Jesus because "He careth for us." (I Peter 5:7) Lay your cares at Jesus' feet and live in calm confidence.

Having left everything to God, Jesus could sleep soundly. Even though many people go to bed exhausted today, though they are weary and worn, they can't sleep. Why? Could it be that we have not cast EVERYTHING upon Him. Could it be that we fear life more than God? We fret and we worry when we should be glorifying and resting. Might we even glorify God in being able to sleep in peace?

Take your burdens to God in prayer . . . and . . . leave them there. Be still and see the salvation of God. Have a baby's confidence even when it seems the ship of life is filling with water and is about to sink. You may stagger a little under the load but your soul can be tranquil.

We find the disciples in this story giving way to fear. They were



afraid of losing their physical lives. They had forgotten to tap the peace and courage which lay near at hand. When Christ is aboard, there is no sinking, but they didn't realize that. They had seen many other miracles but it seemed irrational that they could have safety now. They cried out, "Master, carest Thou not that we perish?" Was Christ to be accused of such hard-heartedness as to let His few faithful men perish? Alas, we, too, have been guilty of similar attitudes. They doubted the wisdom and love of their Lord.

But Jesus produced a great calm. That calmness and peace which passeth all understanding is ours if we totally trust and believe. No matter how drear your despondence or how dread your despair, the Lord can create a great calm and confidence. What a door of hope this opens to us . . . knowing that Jesus will speak peace to the tired and troubled heart. Faith was a key factor in this illustration. Calm and faith go together.

Why can we be calm? Because our sins are forgiven. All providence works for our good. Eternity has no threat for us. The Lord is our shield. He will keep us in perfect peace when our minds are stayed on Him.

Finally, if we have the Lord's peace, we can make peace. We can speak so as to console others. Our calm can work marvels in the little ships whereof others are captains. Our confidence can prove contagious and spread.

Can there be a calm in the '80's? In Christ, there can be.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## THEY DON'T LIKE ME

A teenager was getting ready for her graduation from high school. She was expecting some relatives from a distance, but they hadn't yet arrived, and it was getting very close to time to leave for the commencement program. She said rather forlornly to her Mom, "They don't like me; nobody is coming." Her distress was brief, as the expected guests arrived shortly thereafter.

Even though brief, her distress was real. It was very important to her that her relatives would come for that special event in her life. It indicated to her that she was accepted, loved, and cared for in a personal way. She wanted and needed a special place in their hearts. If they hadn't come, it would have meant to her that they didn't really care. It was like saying, "I'm not interested in you."

Whether a teenager, golden-ager or somewhere in between, we all need someone to care, someone to reach out to us in love and to show a personal interest in us. This is especially true if we are in trouble or are facing a crisis of some kind. It would have been a severe blow to this girl's self-esteem if no one had been interested in this event in her life and showed it. Saying we care is important, but it's not enough; we must show it also.

Jesus cared about people and He showed it in many ways, little as well as big. First and foremost, He showed His great concern for our spiritual need by becoming our Redeemer. In His concern for us, Jesus put first things first, and we can follow His example in our concern for others. Jesus set aside His own desires to help us, and sometimes we must do that for others.

We can't do all that Jesus did but we can do some things and pattern our lives after His selfless life. Jesus comforted those who sorrowed, and we can do this if we will. It doesn't take a lot of money or talent, but it does take time and giving of one's self. Jesus said He wouldn't leave us comfortless but would come to us (John 14:18). The presence of someone who cares is in itself a comfort and it's up to us now to go to those who need us, and do what we can.

Jesus was a friend of Mary, Martha and Lazarus, and He spent a lot of time in their home. When Lazarus died, Jesus came and comforted and wept with Lazarus' sisters. His actions said, "I love you. You are important to me." Mary and Martha were not expecting Jesus to raise Lazarus, but He did. Jesus wasn't compelled to do this, but was moved by compassion. We also need to be motivated by compassion for others, to have a deep concern for them. This means setting self aside in order to be free to help someone else, but it will be worth it.

Jesus called His disciples friends, and He treated them as friends. "But I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you." John 15:15b. Jesus shared many things with the disciples, and passed on to them the promises of God. It was a personal way of sharing, He had their best interests at heart and took the time to tell them so. Again, His actions demonstrated His love for them.

Jesus gives grace and strength to us as needed, knowing we can't make it alone. We can't do this for others, but we can give our love and support to them. We can lift people up through prayer and encourage them in Christ, thus demonstrating our love for them. Sometimes it only takes a little time and a small deed to show that we care, and yet how easy it is to neglect other's needs!

Many times Jesus showed His concern and compassion for others by healing them, both spiritually and physically. We can't do this either, but we can be a vital part of the healing process in the emotional sense. People with physical ills return to health faster if they have a good attitude and plenty of loving support. Those who are spiritually ill need help, too. Without it, they will continue on in the same rut and never have what their souls need.

Jesus healed many people of all sorts of ailments. He interceded



for them and still does for us. We can intercede for others through prayer. We can also rebuke the gossip and give our support to one who is being condemned, be it justly or unjustly. When anyone is not right with God, we should be helping him out of the mire, not shoving him farther down in it. An uncaring spirit will not intercede for anyone, but if you have a genuine concern, you will intercede and give your support where needed, just as Jesus did.

Do your actions say, "I like you, and I care what happens to you," or do they say something else? No matter what you say with words, your actions will speak the loudest. How can you determine what you should do? The Golden Rule provides a simple answer for this question. "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets." Matt. 7:12. If you can say you'd like to be treated as you are treating others, you can be sure your actions say you care. May God help us all to truly care about those around us.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **BORN INTO GOD'S KINGDOM**

Jesus told Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again" — have a new birth after being born in this world. We must be born of water and of the Spirit to become part of the kingdom of God in this life. Christ said no man cometh to the Father except by me.

Much is implied in becoming part of the kingdom of God. The earth and its contents are perishable. We must accept and become part of the kingdom of God in this world to become heirs to the great eternal city of God. We are not to be conformed to this world but transformed by the renewing of our minds. A change takes place when we are born into the kingdom of God. Old things have passed away. Sin is desired no more. All things have become new through the cleansing blood.

When we were down in the liquid stream, we promised to renounce Satan with all his pernicious ways and the sinful pleasures of this world. We cannot serve two Masters. Christ gave to us a perfect example which we must accept.

Have we accepted what is required to become born again Christians? It is the only way to become part of the kingdom of God. Do we appreciate the great sacrifice Christ has made for us and that God has given to us his only begotten Son for our redemption? Do we have all the fruits of the Spirit and are living epistles, read and known of all men? Love is the fulfillment of our duty to our Lord. Are we pressing onward and forward toward the mark of the prize of the highcalling of God in Christ Jesus?



The crown of righteousness is not at the beginning of life's pathway, but is for them who endure faithfully to the end of life's race. Jesus said my kingdom is not of this world and my servants do not fight. Those who use the sword will perish with the sword. In our Lord's prayer, we have, "thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

The Jews were looking for Christ to set up an earthly kingdom and many would not accept His doctrine concerning Christ's teaching. When He was demanded of the Pharisees when the kingdom should come He answered them and said, "the kingdom of God cometh not with observation neither shall they say lo here or lo there for behold the kingdom of God is within." Luke 17:20-21.

We are commanded what we must do in the saving Gospel of Christ to become part of the kingdom of God. Referring to this world we are commanded to come out from among them and be separate and unite with truth and righteousness of the people of God. Jesus said except your righteousness exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees ye shall in no wise enter the kingdom of heaven. The saving Gospel of Christ will lead us to become part of the kingdom of God. "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the holy ghost." Rom. 14:17. We are to be separated from evil.

Have we anchored our soul in the Haven of Rest? Is our name written there on the page white and fair? Have we received the new birth and have the Christian spirit living within us and become a bright and shining light to those who are living in darkness? Are we prepared for the call to change from time to eternity?

By being faithful and true to the trust Christ left us, we can become part of God's kingdom in this life if we accept the plan of salvation to the fullest extent. John the Revelator said, "and I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, 'Now is come salvation and strength and the kingdom of our God and the power of his Christ for the accusers of our brethren is cast down which accused them before our Lord day and night.'" When we are a part of God's kingdom in this world we are a blessed example to others.

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**SIXTY YEARS AGO****June 15, 1924****BE NOT DECEIVED — WATCH****T. S. Waltersdorff**

“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition.” (II Thess. 2:3). As we read these words and look at the times and conditions that are surrounding us, we must surely acknowledge that we are stepping in these times, that the apostle tells us that will come before the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Do we not feel within ourselves that conditions have changed wonderfully in the last few years, and yet when we get to talking with men that claim to be followers of God they will say that the world is getting better and how much more convenient these modern times are: auto, wireless telegraphy, airplane, our houses everything so handy, yes, how careful we are to have everything so convenient. Yes, and it does please the eye and I just wonder if it doesn't fill our hearts with joy, too, to have everything so handy. Dear brother and sister, I just wonder if we have our hearts set on spiritual things as we should have. Oh, how careful we are when we go to buy a farm, a house, bank stock, and so on that there is nothing against it, that we get a clear title and so on. I do not mean to say that that is not right if this is not uppermost in our heart, but dear reader, let us not forget that God knows our every thought and how thankful we can be that God knows, or else thieves and rubbers would enter into the joys of his rest and the faithful in heart would be pushed back. So I say again how thankful we can be that God knows our every heart, Oh, how it pains our heart when we hear the conversation even of some of our leading brethren. Matt. 12:34 tells us, “for out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh.”

Dear brother and sister, let us read our Bible carefully and prayerfully asking God to guide us into all truth, and then we will not be so easily shaken with every wind of doctrine. One of the great troubles of the day is when we get to talking to some of our brethren that are close to our heart about conditions they will say they do not see so much wrong in this or that but still they will admit that things are not quite what they should be. Dear brother and sister, let us not forget in our own way of looking at things and not taking the Bible at its word, we are getting on dangerous ground. Let us not forget Mother Eve only ate the apple. Yes, and we know what God had told them, showing us that God means just what he says. Let us not forget Lot's wife. She just looked around



and we know the result, and Moses, that great man, how he was leading God's people and how God had given him power to do wonderful things and just for, yes if we use our own poor thoughts we could say, he just smote the rocks. Yes, but God told him to speak to the rock. Someone may say he smote the rock before and got water. Yes, but this time God told him to speak to the rock and of course we know the result, he could not go into the promised land. All these years leading God's people and then could not enter into the promised land. Yes, he could see it but not go in.

Dear reader, let us not forget these things and be as the text says, "Let no man deceive you by any means." The second verse in the same chapter says that, "be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand." So when these things come before us like they are, men are not standing for the Gospel as it is, that it is just what the text tells us, that day shall not come except there come a falling away first. Dear reader, when is the promise ours, when we start in Christian life or in the middle or at the end? Does not the word teach us that the promise is to those that endure to the end? Oh, how it pains our heart when we read these eternal truths and see how the church is drifting away from God's word! Yes, dear brothers and sisters, that lay close to our heart, as soon as something new is introduced how ready so many are to take hold of it and push it along, and then after we hear, "well I did not know much about it and I was not just in favor of it, but brother John, or Sister Anna, or one of the brethren at school told me about it, and of course I brought it before the church. Maybe we can get something good out of it."

Dear brother and sister, does not the Scriptures teach us that we are not to be so easily shaken with every kind of doctrine? Dear reader, let us read our Bible carefully and prayerfully and then if there is anything comes before us let us lay all self aside, get our Bible, be in sincerity about it, get on our knees before God knowing that he is all wise and all able to help us out of the trials and difficulties and let us stand firm after we have tried the spirit whether it corresponds with God's word. Someone may say it is just your way of looking at things. Dear brother and sister, if we hear a brother say anything and see him stand for what he says let us look in God's word and if his saying does not comply with God's word then we have a perfect right to say it is only his own way of looking at things. But if it is in harmony with God's truth let us not forget that it is not that brother's own thought, and that we are rejecting God's word. Dear brothers and sisters when we take hold of things as they come along whether they are in harmony with God's word or not, or when we see that conditions are so contrary



to God's holy writ are we going to help to push that kind of work along? Are we not brothers and sisters when we look in God's word going to let it as it is, and not stand firm on that rock that will stand the test, and whenever difficulties arise show where we stand? By so doing maybe someone may look more earnestly in the Lamb's Book of Life, and if we could turn one from error of his way and save a soul from death, after all, our coming into this world would be worthwhile, and we can rejoice that we have stood against that man of perdition (ruin) and are not going with the tide as it is so rapidly drifting along, and when that great day of final account comes we can truly say that we stood against things that are not in harmony with God's word, and that we showed our light to help those that were falling away to come back to God and receive a crown that will shine forever.

## **THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, THE BODY AND BRIDE OF THE LORD**

WILLIAM ROOT

In part one we were discussing, What the Church Is. It is said that the Church is a mystery. It is true, as we have pointed out from Eph. 5:32, its relationship as being married to Christ, is as Paul has said a "great mystery." Also we believe the Bible teaches that it is a mystery in the sense of its nature, being a "Spiritual Institution or kingdom rather than as a temporal or fleshly Kingly Throne."

The kingdom of Israel, which was a nationality or race of people, separate from the nations of the world, was no mystery to them. The Old Testament prophets describe it in glowing terms. Should the new kingdom which God was to set up (Dan. 2:44) have been such a mystery to those who were looking for the coming Messiah? He had been pointed out as the builder of the "Temple of the Lord." Much had been pointed out, as to what He would be and do for them, God's people. The mystery seems to be and still is to some today (many will not accept it), that the Church grew out of the Kingdom of Heaven.

That the Gentiles were to receive mercy was no mystery, either to the Prophets of Israel, or the early Church. Hosea 2:21-23, "And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the Lord, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth; And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel. And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God." Christ sowed Israel, "He came to His own."

Through the rejection of the kingdom to Israel, mercy was extended to the Gentiles. Both Israel and the Church have a chance to be saved through Christ and the Church.

Also, the Church understood . . . Rom. 9:24-25, "Even us (the Church), whom he hath called (both Jew and Gentile), not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved." The preceding verses read, "What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory." These verses teach us, that God would not cast away His people Israel, who were blinded in part, but would also extend His mercies to the Gentiles.

Should the Church then have been a mystery, when it came? Being prophesied so long before? Yes, the prophets did not understand its nature, just as the Apostles, for a time did not either. Yet it was no mystery that God called the Gentiles. "And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them (the Gentiles), Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God. Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved (through Christ)." "For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth. And as Esaias said before, Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma and been made like unto Gomorrah." Except God would have given them His seed and His kingdom the Church, they would have been cut off and destroyed. "What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness which is of faith." Rom. 9:26-30.

To Be Continued  
Selected by Joseph Lavy



You may give until you are rich — and keep until you are poor.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JULY, 1984

### OF THE EARTH

Memory Verse: Psa. 104:14

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;

Sun. 1 - Psa. 104:1-17

Mon. 2 - Psa. 104:18-35

Tues. 3 - Psa. 105:1-22

Wed. 4 - Psa. 105:23-45

Thur. 5 - Psa. 106:1-23

Fri. 6 - Psa. 106:24-48

Sat. 7 - Psa. 108:1-13

Memory Verse: Psa. 105:7

He is the Lord our God: His judgments are in all the earth.

Sun. 8 - Psa. 112:1-10

Mon. 9 - Psa. 113:1-9

Tues. 10 - Psa. 114:1-8

Wed. 11 - Psa. 115:1-18

Thur. 12 - Psa. 119:1-24

Fri. 13 - Psa. 119:25-48

Sat. 14 - Psa. 119:49-72

Memory Verse: Psa. 119:64

The earth, O Lord, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes.

Sun. 15 - Psa. 119:73-96

Mon. 16 - Psa. 119:97-120

Tues. 17 - Psa. 119:121-144

Wed. 18 - Psa. 119:145-176

Thur. 19 - Psa. 121:1-8

Fri. 20 - Psa. 124:1-8

Sat. 21 - Psa. 134:1-3

Memory Verse: Psa. 119:90

Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.

Sun. 22 - Psa. 135:1-21

Mon. 23 - Psa. 136:1-26

Tues. 24 - Psa. 138:1-8

Wed. 25 - Psa. 139:1-24

Thur. 26 - Psa. 140:1-13

Fri. 27 - Psa. 141:1-10

Sat. 28 - Psa. 146:1-10

Memory Verse: Psa. 121:2

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

Sun. 29 - Psa. 147:1-20

Mon. 30 - Psa. 148:1-14

Tues. 31 - Prov. 2:1-22

Memory Verses: Psa. 138:4

All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O Lord, when they hear the words of thy mouth.

Psa. 148:13

Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven.



Lester Fisher  
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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

JULY 1, 1984

NO. 13

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## THE DIFFERENCE

I got up early one morning  
and rushed right into the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
that I didn't have time to pray.  
Problems just tumbled about me,  
and heavier came each task.  
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered.  
He answered, "You didn't ask."  
I wanted to see joy and beauty,  
but the day toiled on, gray and bleak;  
I wondered why God didn't show me.  
He said, "But you didn't seek."  
I tried to come into God's presence;  
I used all my keys at the lock.  
God gently and lovingly chided,  
"My child, you didn't knock."  
I woke up early this morning,  
and paused before entering the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
that I had to take time to pray.

- Author unknown  
Selected by Sister Jeanne Sines

## **A GOD OF ORDER**

God in His creation of the earth and all within it brought order and usefulness out of chaos and void. Before God spoke His creation into being there was only chaos in the midst of space. But by His power of verbal creation, He ordered a world in the way of highest usefulness.

The study of nature confirms the order of God. The movement of the earth, sun, moon and stars is so precise that scientists can predict with minute accuracy the date and time of eclipses and other natural phenomenon years before they happen. This orderliness has allowed those in the space program to make their necessary calculations to send men into space. If this world and its surrounding heavens were not governed by God's order, these calculations could not be made with such accuracy.

Not only are the heavens and the solar system governed by God's orderliness, but also the plant and animal kingdoms on earth. Without His order, botanists and zoologists could not make their studies concerning plants and animals. The patterns of life and production of plants are ordered by God. The planting, tilling, watering and harvesting of grain and fruit is so constant that they are often used as parables of Spiritual activities. The lives of the animals speak of the orderliness of life.

God's orderliness is not only found in nature but also in the affairs of men. God has ordained human governments. Without governments there would be anarchy. There would be no safety or protection for individuals if God had not established government to control crime. Without this control we could not so easily live quiet and peaceful lives as we are commanded in the New Testament. The government is to keep the disorderly and criminal

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### **THE BIBLE MONITOR**

**JULY 1, 1984**

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activity under control. While, as Christians, we would not want to use or be active in the police power of the government, we are willing through our taxes to support this power so we can have a peaceful atmosphere in which to live. It is always difficult to live in the midst of confusion. God has therefore, ordained the government to subdue confusion and bring out of it a situation conducive to lives lived in accordance with God's Word.

God has not only provided for government over the natural realm of men but also over the Spiritual realm as well. God desires orderliness and decency within the Church. The Church is not only a spiritual body but also an organized body. The services of the local congregation are to be designed so each member can freely worship God and have fellowship with others without disrupting others. The organization of the Church is not to be dictatorial but still able to allay confusion. The purpose of General Conference is to end confusion by establishing one rule that the whole Church can act in the same way. When the Church is troubled over variant beliefs and practices, it has the ability to end that confusion by assembling in General Conference and establishing a consenting mind toward the confusion or problem. By establishing a standard of belief and practice there will be less confusion within congregations and across the Brotherhood. Paul had warned the Corinthians, who were badly out of order, that they must end their confusing practices and dissension.

Not only has God established order in large things such as nature, government and the Church, He also wishes to bring order into individuals' lives. Many lives are beset by chaos. There is confusion and disharmony within lives because they are out of tune with God. When individuals do not believe or accept the provisions God has made for their spiritual and natural lives, they will experience confusion and chaos. But God is able to bring order out of the most discordant lives, if there is a willingness to listen and obey. God will not force His order upon anyone unwillingly. But if one does decide to have God's order in his life, he must submit to God's will and way.

God is a God of order. He has dealt in an orderly way with mankind throughout history. He is never satisfied with confusion and indecency. He seeks for His order within individual lives and within the Church. As His children, it is for our benefit that it has promoted His orderliness. We need to accept His order and live our lives in a way that will exalt His order within our lives. We are to be a decent and orderly people.



## LIVING IN THE DUMP

Some missionaries told of a group of families living in a city dump in one country. Nearly twenty families live in this dump and make their living digging through the rubbish, salvaging anything which can be sold for a few pennies. They live in makeshift, cardboard shacks and raise their families in great poverty — in the dump.

We who have so much can't really relate to such poverty. We are blessed above measure with food, clothes, shelter — all it takes to live comfortably and then some. The thoughts of living in a dump is disturbing, but the question is, are we willing to share part of our abundance with those who lack even the most necessary things? Also, if we help meet their physical needs, is that enough?

Physical needs are easily spotted, especially when someone is living in a dump. But what about the people who have nothing spiritually? Some are literally living in a dump, existing in the rubbish of sin. Others are a little better off (not as deep in sin), but still living on the trash of life. They never receive good spiritual food, in fact are in such a state of spiritual poverty that we could call them destitute.

This sort of poverty exists for several reasons. Some people are satisfied with life as it is, and don't really want new life in Christ. Others would like something better (they are sick of sin) but don't know how to obtain it. Do you care enough to do something about their need? Or is your concern limited to physical needs?

You may think that the work of teaching others about Christ is for missionaries, ministers and so forth. This is true, but there are mission fields all about us, and we can't push all the work off on just a few. It takes a caring spirit to reach out in love to help a person in need physically, and to help spiritually, we must care about their souls. Do you?

Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10. Jesus has the best for those who will receive it — the abundant life. It is His desire that everyone would receive this new and blessed life, and get out of the dump of sin. He has given us the work of proclaiming the good news of salvation to those in sin. Are you concerned enough to do your part, whether it be to pray, preach or teach?

Those families who are present dump-residents could be moved, cardboard shacks and all, to a spot outside the dump where it would be cleaner and surely better smelling. But those people would return to the dump each day to continue their sorting and digging through the rubbish. Living there just makes their life a bit

easier so they stay. If their lives are to be changed, a whole new environment and a new occupation are needed. A noticeable change is necessary, not just a superficial change.

People living in a dump spiritually need a complete change, too. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. There must first be a change of heart, and only Jesus can do this. Following a change of heart, a change of environment and living habits must occur. One cannot continue on in the same old ways, in fact, one will not want to. This change will mean different friends, different personal habits, different motivation, maybe even a different job. In short, we can't have Jesus within and still live in the dump.

People who are destitute may search through garbage cans for food, as well as other things. The thoughts of living like that makes most people sick, but yet the same people will rummage in the "garbage cans" of sin for whatever thrills they can get. They are only one step away from living in the dump, but until they recognize their status before God, they'll not realize what sin is doing to them.

In your own life, where are you spiritually — living out of garbage cans or in the dump? Or, have you experienced a new life in Christ? There is no reason for you to continue on in sin when Jesus can change your life. It's time now to leave the garbage cans and dumps behind and let Jesus take over in your life. Will you?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## TAKE TIME TO CARE

I'm old and feeble and can't move about  
They say I'm shut in but I'm really shut out.  
The world's all around me and passing me by  
While I sit here and wonder, "Lord, is it my day to die?"  
Oh God if I could only stand up and say  
"Good morning, How are you this beautiful day?"  
But I speak with my eyes and feel with my heart  
As I try to live in this world far apart.  
Oh read to me please or sing me a song  
Oh show me those pictures I haven't seen for so long.  
Oh God let them hear me in some magical way  
Let them look in my eyes and see it someday.  
I'm lonely, so lonely, I've got endless hours to share  
I'll listen forever if they'll take time to care.

- Author unknown

Selected by Brother M. B. Bell

## JEALOUSY AND RELATED ISSUES

Proverbs 6:34 "For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance."

Song of Solomon 8:6(b) "jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame."

The type of jealousy described in these verses is a terrible thing. There is another type of jealousy, however, spoken of in scripture which we will look at a little later. A subject we see as very closely related to jealousy is "nit-picking." We believe that a great many of the divorces, that are so prevalent in our time, are caused by jealousy. Many times spouses are accused of wrong doings they are entirely innocent of because of suspicious minds. Ironically enough, many of those who possess this wrong type of jealousy are those who are unfaithful to their mate!

The earthly church is full of this type of jealousy along with much "nit-picking." Those who would never think of holding a position of leadership often are jealous of those who do hold these positions. And, unfortunately, there is much jealousy and "back-biting" among those in leadership positions. There is also much jealousy and fault finding among those "in the pew." Is it any wonder that many are turned off by the established church?

One example of "nit-picking" that comes to mind concerns the wearing of the beard. We are glad that the vast majority of Brethren do not make having a beard a test of fellowship. On the other side of the coin, some "fundamentalists" and Holiness preachers argue that a man is not to wear a beard because it is a sign of worldliness. Most of the early churches encouraged wearing a beard. This was in all denominations and sects. Also, with love, we would argue that this is one sign of manliness that is opposite of being feminine, which the Bible forbids. We are not speaking against our Brothers whose convictions do not lead them to grow the beard, but only of personal convictions.

There are many "church rules" (and we are certainly not opposed to a church having standards) which can be misused if we are not careful. Satan would use a good thing to bring discord within the body of Christ. To show an extreme where we believe we can be open-minded, we can love a Brother who would choose to "drive" a horse and buggy or one who would choose to drive a Cadillac. This example could take on many variations.

In Exodus 34:14 we find a verse that many would be surprised to find in Holy Scripture. "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God." Here we find the other type of jealousy we referred to earlier in this writing. Paul also mentions this type of jealousy in II Corinthians 11:2, "For I am



jealous over you with godly jealousy: . . ."

While we have stated that the wrong type of jealousy is responsible for many divorces, we believe that the correct type of jealousy can save a marriage! Paul goes on in II Cor. 11:2 to say, ". . . for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." We are aware of the fact that Paul was speaking in spiritual terms and that the "husband" was Jesus Christ. But we also have come to realize just how closely linked the true Church and the marriage covenant is. We believe we would have far fewer divorces if individuals would be forced to only have one husband (or wife) as long as the marriage partner remained alive. For many years this standard was held by the majority of the earthly church. Today many consider such a standard to be unloving. We will not belabor the subject, but we feel the scriptures still teach this principle. True love carries with it a correct type of jealousy. A husband and wife should so jealously cling to each other that neither would think of being unfaithful to the other. Christ taught that adultery starts in the mind.

The same holds true for the truths of scripture. God will not share the love He gave through the sacrifice of His Son with a false religion. The act of such organizations as the World Council of Churches of "flirting" with other religions brings on the jealousy of God. In I Cor. 10:20-22 Paul, through the Holy Spirit, tells us we should not have fellowship with devils and that we cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of devils. He then asks, "Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy?"

We may be accused of "nit-picking" for standing for scriptural truths no longer popular in the earthly church. But we should jealously guard the truth no matter what man may think of us. But, at the same time, we should be careful that our ATTITUDE is of the right kind of jealousy. I feel strongly we must be very careful on judging who is saved and who is not. In fact, our personal conviction is that this judgement should remain with God.

If you are not a part of the true Church, God loves you so much He sent His Son to die for you. In the mystery of the Trinity, God died for your sins. He is not willing to share your love. We are told that we cannot serve two masters. We urge you to repent and be baptized by immersion. Acceptance will provide you with eternal life if you prove faithful to the end. Rejection will assure you of eternal punishment. But all the rewards are not in the end. Jesus Christ will go with you in all your trials and troubles in this life. He is truly, "a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

We feel that we must add before we close that often our love for others is interpreted as unloving "nit-picking." On the other hand

those who teach that God does not make any demands on His children are considered to be very loving. Eternity will prove who REALLY showed love and who was jealous and "nit-picking." We believe the truth can already be found in the Holy Scriptures if we are willing to accept them.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Brich St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **SPIRITUAL DETERMINATION**

In the book of Acts we see the wonderful way in which God blessed the early Church. The Holy Spirit had come upon the believers and they had witnessed with great boldness. People were being saved on every hand. Of course, if the devil hates anything in this world, he hates to see the Church prosper and souls being saved . . . so he stirred up the religious leaders of the day to bring persecution upon the Church. This is even true today. When God blesses a church, when there is a great spirit among the believers, Satan begins to trouble us and God's work is hindered.

The religious leaders became intensely angry in Acts 4, when Peter and John healed a lame man in the name of Christ. Here was a poor lame man, who from his birth had been infirmed, now he is healed and made strong. But the leaders became angry, their hearts filled with jealousy and malice toward the disciples. I have actually seen this happen today, that one person wants to take credit for the salvation of another, to prove they have the greatest witness. Shame on us! The calling of the saints is not notches on our belts.

The first, great opposition to the Gospel occurs here. These leaders laid hold on Peter and John and put them in prison. What was their crime? It was preaching the Gospel in its purity and upholding the principles of the early Church and for healing the lame man.

There is still much opposition to the Gospel today. If we continue to preach the gospel in its fullness, if we defy the modernists and liberals of the day, persecution WILL come. Yes, the world will be at enmity against God's people and unfortunately, some of the opposition will come from within the church.

Satan is behind ALL opposition to the Gospel. He began his work in the world, but now comes into the Body to get a closer shot. The Church is experiencing modernism. Could it be only a short way from the social gospel? Modern Christianity is plagued

by ritualism and ceremony and there is a great wave of infidelity and agnosticism there. It is going to be a struggle . . . a fight to the end. Satan hates the blood of the resurrection, the forgiveness of sin, the salvation of souls and wherever the Gospel is preached, he is going to oppose it.

We are told that these leaders were grieved over what the apostles had preached. What had they preached? They had preached the resurrection through Jesus Christ. The Sadducees, who led the opposition, did not believe in a resurrection. They would have given all they had if they could have proven that the tomb of Christ was still occupied . . . but they couldn't do it. The tomb was empty and Christ was risen . . . ALIVE! This is the cornerstone of our faith. If Jesus had died as a man and remained dead, we would not worship Him as God. But He proved that he was the Son of God.

I admonish you to be more determined than ever before to stay true to the will of God and to stand firm on the principles and teachings of Christ and the Church. Yes, opposition will come, but YOU WILL WIN and God's kingdom will be advanced. This is not a time for weaklings and turncoats in the Church. This IS the time for us to give our best. Cut out everything from your life that is not honoring Christ and plant yourself firmly on His promises.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

**July 1, 1924**

### **ORIGIN AND PURPOSE OF THE BIBLT MONITOR**

**B E. KESLER**

During the fall and winter of 1917 and 1918 a series of circular letters and questionnaires were sent to a number of our elders and ministers relating to certain innovations that were being introduced into our church, as well, also, to certain departures from the "faith of the fathers."

Those innovations and departures were viewed with grave apprehensions and alarm by the loyal and faithful part of our Brotherhood on account of their disturbing influences in destroying the peace and unity of our membership.

The circulars met with such hearty approval that it was decided to get up a paper setting forth those irregularities and send it to Annual Conference in the hope that it would eliminate them. The paper was put into the hands of a committee to report a year later. This report virtually sanctioned all the irregularities embraced in the paper and was adopted by a small margin in open Conference. And, as might have been expected conditions grew worse.



Meanwhile a Declaration of Principles was being formulated in harmony with the sentiment of our loyal and faithful elders as expressed in their replies to the circulars and questionnaires sent out.

While all this was taking place letters were exchanged with Elder M. M. Eshelman of Fresno, California and plans were laid and arrangements were made to start a paper in which those irregularities could be pointed out and fully and freely discussed, so that our people could be informed as to real conditions and dangers confronting us because of the worldward trend of the church. Just at this stage of our venture Brother Eshelman was called away by death and the matter was dropped temporarily, to await developments in the minds of other interested brethren.

Finally communications were had with Brother Cyrus Wallick of Cerro Gordo, Illinois and others, who strongly insisted and urged that the matter be taken up again and the paper started. So after much meditation, thought and prayer, the "Bible Monitor" came upon the scene October, 1922, its purpose being to uphold and maintain truth and righteousness and to oppose error, wrong and evil wherever found.

The Declaration of Principles were printed in the first issue of the "Monitor" as a foundation upon which to base our efforts to work a reform in our beloved Brotherhood. These met with such approval that it was felt some way of uniting the efforts of those interested should be had. So at a called meeting of those interested in the work of reform held at Denton, Maryland, September 12, 1923, the Declaration of Principles was discussed, slightly revised, and adopted by the meeting.

Another general meeting held at Uniontown, Pennsylvania, June 5 and 6, 1924, approved the Declaration, and ordered that it, with an explanation of the origin and purpose of the "Monitor", be printed in convenient form for distribution over our Brotherhood. This meeting also decided to form a corporation to "publish and circulate a paper which shall be, and remain, in full accord with the gospel as understood and practiced by the Church of the Brethren prior to and including the year 1911." The minor discrepancies, if any, between this Declaration and the practice of the church up to date named are easily reconcilable.

So with this explanation, deeply grateful for the approval with which our efforts are being received, we send forth this Declaration in the hope that it may be the means of encouraging the loyal and faithful of our Brotherhood, and of uniting their efforts in the work of reform undertaken by the Bible Monitor and its many helpers and that God's name may be glorified and his church cleansed of the evils that are destroying it.

## IF YOU LOVE JESUS, KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS

From time to time we see bumper stickers which say, "If You Love Jesus, Honk Your Horn," or "If You Love Jesus, Blink Your Lights." Some time ago the Reader's Digest had a short item about a person who saw such a sign and honked his horn. The lady driving the car with the bumper sign became very indignant at being forgot to keep sweet in spite of circumstances.

Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15. John told his followers that "... the love of God, (is) that we keep his commandments, and his commandments are not grievous." I John 5:3.

"He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." I John 2:4.

Jesus said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind . . . and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Matthew 22:37-39.

Jesus also said: "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:24-25.

"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you." Matthew 5:44.

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me." John 15:4.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33.

"Whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment, that we should believe on the name of his son Jesus Christ, and love one another." I John 2:22-23.

"Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? asked Jesus." Luke 6:46. Why, indeed?

Selected by Brother L. H. Miller



The world is not through with the kcross, but it will soon be through without it.

## HE HOLDS THE FUTURE

I do not know what lies ahead,  
The way I cannot see;  
Yet One stands near to be my guide,  
He'll show the way to me.

I know who holds the future  
And I know He holds my hand,  
With God things don't just happen,  
Ev'rything by Him is planned.

So as I face tomorrow  
With its problems large and small,  
I'll trust the God of miracles --  
Give to Him my all.

— Selected by Brother L. A. Shumake

## **"THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, THE BODY AND BRIDE OF THE LORD"**

WILLIAM ROOT

This was the faith of Abraham, through Christ. We see then, that the prophets did not seemingly understand all that was God's plan concerning their salvation. Nevertheless they had the "Messianic" hope, which was enough to have, and would have saved every one of them, had they accepted their "Messiah." The Apostle Peter has said, I Peter 1:9-10, "Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ was in them did signify, which it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow."

They understood and had prophesied of the suffering of Christ as we see from Isaiah 53. "Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." Hence we say, it was no mystery to the prophets, that something glorious was to come after the suffering of their coming "Messiah," but they did not understand its nature, or what it was.

It has been said that Jesus intimated that there was to be something that He called the Church, Matt. 16:13-20. He said He



"would build His Church." We say that His word was not an intimation. He said He would "build His Church" "upon this Rock." Meaning Himself, upon His Word. That he would deliver "the keys of the kingdom of heaven" to His followers. In fact, we can go farther and say, He had already started the work of His "Building." He had organized His called out, into a working body and had sent them out to preach the kingdom of Heaven, Matt. 10:1-8. True they were only to preach it to the Jews, at that time, but when they, the Jews, rejected it, the kingdom was taken from them and given to the Gentiles, Matt. 21:43.

Hence, Christ delivered "the keys of the kingdom" (the power of the Holy Spirit, on the day of Pentecost) to the Apostle Peter giving him the opportunity to open the door of the kingdom to the Gentiles, through His preaching on that same day of Pentecost. We realize that the "House of God, the Temple of the Lord, the coming Kingdom, the Church, should not have been a mystery to the previous ages. Nevertheless the Heirship of the Gentiles had not been revealed to the Jews or Israel, before their Spiritual blindness. That was the great mystery to them, which was also another reason, perhaps, why they did not understand the coming Kingdom.

However, this mystery was revealed by the Holy Spirit to the Apostle Paul. Eph. 3:1-11, "For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for your Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ); Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit." This mystery which was not revealed, was that something, which the prophets had diligently sought. Which was, the inheritance of the Gentiles, with them, in God's everlasting covenant, in His everlasting kingdom.

Reading on from our text in Eph. 3, "That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel. Wherefore I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, in this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be wisdom of God. According to the eternal

purpose which he purposed known by the church the manifold in Christ Jesus our Lord." So we see then, that the church was God's "eternal purpose," for the salvation of the world.

The Church is an "organism" of God, which is God's organization. It is not an authorized organization of man. Christ's Church consists of "One Faith," the faith "once delivered unto the saints." That "faith" is followed from generation to generation, regardless of any organization's church name or creed. It is true faith in Christ, or of Christ. It is a united "Body" of worshippers, of only one faith or practice. Hence, it is only one organization affected by God and it has many members. There is only one Church of the Bible, that is the one built by Christ, and after the pattern of Christ. Christ's Church can be and has been carried from century to century, regardless of church name. Many reject the doctrine, that the Church consists of "Organization," yet they admit that it is an "Organism" of God. We say that Christ built a visible Church, a visible Organization.

Mr. Webster says, an "Organism is: Any organized body or living economy: any individual animal, or plant. (2) the state of being organized. (3) An organized body of people; an organization." Hence, organism means organization. Now note: his definition for organization. "(1) The act of organizing: the act or process of arranging and getting into proper working order. (This is exactly what the Scriptures teach concerning the Church.) (2) The state of being organized; that which is organized; an organized body. (3) Organic structure; the disposition in arrangement of the organs for the performance of vital functions. (4) the arrangement of the parts of an aggregate body for work or action; systematic preparation for action."

Let us get the likeness of the meaning of these two words. The human body is an organism of God, organized by God into various members. We all know that this is true, the eye, the foot, the hand, and so forth. Paul taught, such an organism, or organization, as being the Church. I Cor. 12:27-28, "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. And God hath sent some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healing, helps, governments, diversities of tongues." The 26th verse of the same chapter says, "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it." When we read and study I Cor. 12:12-25, it is impossible to deny that the Church is an Organization.

To be continued  
Selected by Joseph Lavy

## NEWS ITEMS

### MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Elder Frank D. Shaffer is 13092 Grant Shook Road, Greencastle, Pennsylvania 17225.

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

We the Englewood Congregation are planning, the Lord willing, to have a Revival from July 22 to August 5. Our speaker will be Brother Paul Hartz from Palmyra, Pennsylvania. We will end our Revival with Harvest Meeting on August 5. Brother Dennis St. John has consented to bring us the Harvest Meeting sermon.

To these services you are invited with services starting each weekday at 7:45 p.m. and on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Join us in prayer that God's will might be done, that the saints may become fruitful and there might be those who would want to follow Christ.

Sister Shirley Fricke, Cor.

### HART, MICHIGAN

If it be God's will, the Hart Dunkard Brethren Church, will hold Revival Meetings August 12 through August 19. Bro. Dean St. John from Ohio will be our Evangelist.

Pray that the Lord will bless these services; and please come and worship with us.

Sister Peggy Flory, Cor.



Even a mosquito doesn't get a slap on the back till he starts working.



The best preparation for the future, is the present well seen to, and the last duty done. - G. Macdonald



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

JULY 15, 1984

NO. 14

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

---

## "IT'S UP TO YOU"

Have you made someone happy  
or made someone sad,  
What have you done with the  
day that you had?

God gave it to you to do just  
as you would,  
Did you do what was wicked,  
or do what was good?

Did you hand out a smile,  
or just give 'em a frown,  
Did you lift someone up,  
or push someone down?

Did you lighten some load,  
or some progress impede,  
Did you look for a rose, or  
just gather a weed?

What did you do with your  
beautiful day,  
God gave it to you, did you  
throw it away?

—Selected by Brother Daniel Noecker

## A DISCIPLINED CHRISTIAN LIFE

Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

The Great Commission given the Church by the Risen Jesus sends her forth into every part of the world preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. A lost and dying world lies out there without hope. That hope can only be supplied by the Church fulfilling the Great Commission. The Commission not only sends the Church out to preach and proclaim the plan of salvation, She is also to baptize those who would accept and believe the terms of salvation. The Grace and Mercy of God are unavailing unless accepted by the lost. Hearing is not enough. Believing is not enough. There has to be a belief that will take action. That action is baptism.

Jesus gave the Church specific instructions on how to baptize those who believed the Gospel. He commanded a three fold immersion, each dip corresponding to the name of each person of the Trinity. This identification of the believer with the Godhead is necessary as the first act of faith and as a cleansing medium representing the cleansing, shed blood of Jesus Christ.

The Great Commission concerning the preaching of the Gospel has been widely carried out with varying degrees of conformity to the written Word of God. Even baptism by trine immersion has been performed by many, thus carrying out the second part of the commission. But there has been a definite lack of zealous application of the third part of the commission. After acceptance of the Gospel followed by Christian Baptism, there is to be a systemic teaching of all the duties, beliefs and attitudes necessary for a loyal

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

JULY 15, 1984

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Christian life.

For many the emphasis on evangelism has taken away a serious regard for the need of a consecrated Christian life. The emphasis often is on the numbers of people supposedly converted. But the question remains what were they converted for. If there is no teaching beyond the conversion what change has been wrought or what difference is there between the Christian and the world? Today this lack of separation is very evident, showing the Church has failed to teach the life expected of one who has claimed the blood of Christ as the basis of his eternal life.

There is, in general, a lack of discipline in the lives of people, worldly or Christian. In these times of relative prosperity and ease of living, people live for the present not for the future. There is a desire for the present comforts of life rather than those in the future. It is easier to overspend for present desires than to do without. This same attitude has also adversely affected personal relationships. There is a present desire for physical enjoyment that is indulged rather than a commitment to marriage. The break-up of marriages also shows the lack of discipline needed to keep two together.

Discipline is also missing in the Church. There is not only a lack of discipline meted out in love by the congregation but also a lack of self-discipline by the members. Without self-discipline or Church discipline, there is no discipline, so the Christian life becomes a near copy of the world's life style.

The lack of set and sustained standards within the Church has cost her much influence. There has been a tendency to think that by lowering standards the Church could more easily influence the world but the very opposite has happened. The Church in becoming more like the standardless world has lost much of her influence. Today the world expects Christians to do about the same things they do. While the Church may be accepted as a fellow traveler by the world, she has lost the respect that she formerly had, even when persecuted by the world.

While the Church has compromised hoping to bring more within her borders she has failed. Once members are brought into a compromised body, they may soon tire of her few remaining restrictions and move on to the world's social club which the Church but poorly imitates. When the Church has resisted the pressure to compromise and has maintained her high, Biblical standards, she may not gain wholesale numbers but she will gain respect and admiration for herself, her God and her Saviour.

The disciplined Christian life is necessary individually and as a group. May the standards remain high. May each one of us do our part to carry out all three parts of the Great Commission. Will you do your part?

## THE BREVITY OF LIFE

First of all I want to thank the Lord for allowing me to arrive at this vantage point in life. The view becomes more wonderful as we continue our climb in life.

In the 90th Psalm, verse 10, the writer is rather specific when he measures our brief time by years which we spend here upon the earth. He writes thus, "Tho days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." This is Heaven's eternal decree.

Seeing then that our life is like the grass which crowns the summer day and then it fades away, or like the opening flower that later on withers and decays, this brings us to a new awareness in life. If our earthly life is to be compared with the fragile grass and the flower we would better get our priorities straightened out.

What shall we, the creature, implore of the Creator and Preserver of the universe, the one who holds our lives in the hollow of His hand? Every breath and heartbeat is by His divine order and creative power.

The Psalmist answers our question in Psalm 90, verse 12, when he says, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

For those of us who are nearing the threescore and ten years or older our earthly future is growing shorter and our past is growing longer.

My earthly parents have gone on to their eternal reward a number of years ago and yet, it seems like only yesterday that they were my age and were alive here upon the earth. This helps me to number my days.

If we yet wish to accomplish things in this life let's not procrastinate for it's always later than we think. Three years ago at our Conference in North Platte, Nebraska, I promised our editor, Bro. Milton Cook, to write an article but I didn't get started until now. I offer my apologies to you.

Some time ago a minister pointed out in his sermon that we will have to live our lives above that of the average Christian if we expect to get to Heaven. This is something to think about. May we have faith in the GRACE and MERCY of God and may the delights of this world have no charm for us but may the higher and the nobler things always allure our sight.

Humbly submitted,  
Brother John H. Kintzel  
322 North 2nd St., Apt. 1203  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

### THREE VIEWPOINTS ON "CHRISTIAN" POLITICS

John 18:36, "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence."

The vast majority of those who claim the name "Brethren" today are involved in worldly politics to one degree or another. We believe this is a result of being influenced by today's liberal, ecumenical movement and the conservative "fundamentalist" movement. This is one of the many areas where the Brethren of today have traded scriptural teaching for popular theology. As always, we write in love towards those who disagree with our point of view and welcome dialogue.

The first viewpoint we wish to examine is the "Calvanistic viewpoint." Historically they have stood for a Church-State situation. Many hyper-Calvanists teach that nations should be ruled by strict Bible standards. They especially refer to Old Testament standards. While we are certainly not opposed to "good laws," we believe very few would be willing to stone a disobedient son! Deuteronomy 21:18-21. They, of course, teach that it is the Church's responsibility to try to have an influence on the nation's politics.

The second viewpoint we would like to examine is the "Lutheran viewpoint." Historically they have held to a State-Church position. While it was felt that the Church should not involve itself in politics, individuals within the Church were expected to be involved in political matters.

The third viewpoint we wish to examine is the one historically held by the Brethren, the Anabaptist viewpoint. They taught that you cannot separate the individual members from the Church. Therefore, the Church should not make political judgments nor its members be involved in politics.

The place where the Anabaptists initially disagree with the Calvanistic political theory was in the definition of "the Kingdom." While the Calvanists put the Kingdom of God in a future millennial setting (and made it different from the Kingdom of Heaven), the Anabaptists argued that the Kingdom was the Church (and there was no difference between the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven.) We believe this position can be proven through a careful study of scripture. The Calvanistic emphasis of the Church being directly involved in politics closely resembles the "liberal christianity" emphasis. Strangely enough, the "liberals" are often closer to the truths God gave to and for the Church than the "Fundamentalist-Calvanists." But the liberals fail to see that a country cannot be run on Christian principles. An example is the difference between Romans 13 and Matthew 5. While a Christian is



to "Lay down his sword," a leader of a country must insist that it be militarily equal to (or superior to) another country who proves to be an enemy. To do less is to "hide your head in the sand." This brings up the question, what if the leader of the country is a Christian? As we see it, he has three alternatives. He can declare himself to be a Calvinist and state that it is his duty to use violence in the name of the Church. Or he can declare himself to be "Lutheran" and state that he is not acting in the name of the Church but as an individual. The last alternative would be (if he becomes a Christian after being elected or sees the Bible in a different way) he can follow the TRUE WAY, as we understand it, and resign from office to follow Jesus Christ as a humble servant.

While Lutheran theology recognizes the "Two Kingdom" teaching, it puts Christians in BOTH kingdoms. It makes individuals part of the Church only when in worship or making decisions as a body. This reminds us of the man who is "married" only when his wife is close enough to observe his actions!

Anabaptist (Brethren) theology teaches that we who are born again individuals are a part of the Kingdom of God and not a part of the world. It teaches that we cannot separate personal life from corporate Church life. Therefore, we are not to be involved in political matters. But what do the scriptures have to say on the matter?

In Luke 16:8 we find a difference between the "children of this world and the children of light." In John 1:10 we find that "the world knew him (Jesus) not." In John 14:30 we find that the "Prince of this world" is not of Christ. In Romans 12:2 we find that Christians are not to be conformed to this world. In I Cor. 2:6 we find that Christians are not to use the wisdom of this world. In II Cor. 2:6 we find that the god of this world is not the true God. In Gal. 1:4 we find that Christ wants to "deliver us from this present evil world." In II Tim. 4:10 we find that we are not to love this present world. In James 1:27 we find that we are to keep ourselves "unspotted from the world." I John 2:15 "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. . ."

end of sickness, pain, and sorrow. But, in reality, this will be the Church perfected. Jesus Christ is not waiting to be King of kings and Lord of Lords, but holds that position now in the church. We are to be concerned with spiritual concerns and not with worldly politics. Those born again and living the obedient life will make good citizens. Some of those who are not part of the Kingdom of God will do evil no matter how good the laws of the land. If you obey every law of the land and do not accept Jesus Christ you are bound for punishment (eternal). The most important choice is not who will rule the land (earthly) but who will rule your life.

Brother James M. Hite

816 E. Birch St., Palmyra, PA 17078

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Reach out . . . reach out and touch someone. . ."

We read in Luke 8:46, "And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me."

Our Lord was frequently in the midst of a crowd. His plain and forceful preaching always attracted a company of hearers. He often found it difficult to move through the streets because of the masses pressing upon Him. He expended much energy and virtue to save one sinful soul.

Someone touched Jesus. We should never be satisfied unless we get into personal contact with the Master. If we gain this personal contact, we will receive a blessing. That contact should be the number one aim of our life.

Jesus touches our soul at conversion, then again at baptism and then as we keep close to Him, we continue to be blessed with a stream of love flowing from Him. There is nothing mechanical about it but rather it is the essence of vital godliness.

We touch Jesus through prayer. Sometimes we are superficial in our prayer life, so flippant, that we never really touch Jesus. Oh yes, He is there, but we keep our distance, fearing total surrender. Don't be content until that total communication is reached.

We touch Christ at the communion table. We touch Him through the ordinances, through His grace and by fellowship with other saints.

The woman in Luke 8 felt a compulsion to touch Christ. She did so under many difficulties. There was a great crowd. She was diseased and possibly she had to push her way through the crowd to reach Him. It is not always easy to get to Jesus. Distractions of life hinder us. Sometimes our minds are filled with a thousand thoughts and there seems to be no room for spiritual concentration. We need to notice that the woman touched Jesus very secretly. She reached out to Him in the closet of her mind and this is a lesson to be learned.

She reached out to Christ in a very deep sense of unworthiness. She was ceremonially unclean and might have been stricken with judgment for such a deed. Had the Levitical law been enforced strictly, she would have been confined to her house. But though she was unclean, Christ could cleanse her. Though she was undone, there was strength and courage for her. She had faith and this was a prerequisite to her healing. Her approach was right, as the way for the creature to reach the Creator is on hands and knees. There is no fear of failing as you journey to Heaven in that position.

Your lowliness of heart and sense of utter nothingness before Christ is the proper understanding. The more you lack, the more



you can receive from Him. Rely on His dying love, His rising power, His ascended victory.

This woman didn't go away without receiving virtue. The healing power streamed at once through the finger of faith into her. When you feel very low spiritually, when the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak, reach out . . . the touch of Jesus will stir your life. The fountain is flowing so come to Him. Whatever your sin, your doubt, or heaviness, it will depart as He touches you.

If you have touched Christ, reach out and touch someone else. Tell others about it in order that they may touch Him too. Show forth the love of Jesus. "Reach out, reach out . . . and touch someone!"

Brother Leonard Wertz

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

**July 1, 1924**

**STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN! ALWAYS THE SAME**

**H. D. Hoover**

What is wrong? How readest thou? Are we not living by the same word of God that our forefathers read and lived? I say we are under the same plan of salvation as they were living. Where is the trouble? I am quite sure it is not with the word of God for it has not changed. (Matt. 5:18) But the people have somehow been tossed about by some evil spirit. (Eph. 4:14) For many people read the Bible and then they say within themselves, "I know the Bible and I am a Christian." But sorry to say that is only by profession for their actions are altogether different and they speak so loud that the world cannot see any good in them; so they have the form of Godliness and deny the power thereof. (II Tim. 3:5) Just going on through life with their own determined and stubborn wills and remaining in the same old rut as before they read God's word. Jesus says there is a time to change your ways and to walk not after the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life, for it will vanish away and all that crave after the same, (I John 2:16) which many so-called Christians are doing, forgetting that God's Word has not changed; it is the same. We are told through the prophet that God made the word so plain and simple that a wayfaring man though a fool should not err therein (Isa. 35:8); and yet the so-called Christian and child of the most high God claiming to be, and holding high offices in the service of almighty God and an enlightened people of a civilized nation take in their own hands the authority to thus change God's almighty and everlasting truth, by teaching by precept and example in their lives by saying there are unnecessary and nonessential things in the word of God. But I



pray God that this may spread as an untruth and people may take God's word just as it is, for it is the same, it has not changed, thank God. The kind of people that teach thus are nothing more nor nothing less than a wolf in sheep's clothing. (Matt. 7:15) Watch and pray lest they lead you astray. God pity and help such to see the light of the blessed word, for it is the same as ever it was. Look at the members of the so-called old Dunkard church of twenty-five years ago. What a vast change and it is not because they have a different Bible, but it is, I believe largely due to their heads outgrowing the heart or have lost their conversion or perhaps never have been converted fully. No wonder God's word says they will heap to themselves teachers having itching ears. And by these are being led astray from the faith of the so-called old Dunkard church. I am sorry that so many brethren and sisters are just living a contrary or different life from the way God's word says, or from the old way years ago. Oh, I know it isn't popular to be plain or do some other things that God asks us to do, but that does not change the word, for which I greatly thank God, that what he has said is fixed and will not change.

Oh, I guess some will say when they read this write-up, "Oh, that is some old foggy or religious crank", but I would rather be an old foggy in the courts of God in the next world than to enjoy the pleasures of this world for a season. The Lord said come out from among the world and be separate. (II Cor. 6:17) (I Peter 2:9). This is the same as ever. The same yesterday, today and forever. (Heb. 13:8-9) Where are we as brethren in Christ? What is wrong? Wake up! Wake up to this fact. May God help all who read.



## HOW FAR TO HELL

As a Christian was on his way to a meeting, a young man who came out of an inn and mounted his horse, said: "Can you tell me how far it is to Hell?" The Christian paused, reflected for a moment and then replied: "It is not far off; you may come to it sooner than you expect." The young man laughed, put spurs to his horse, and was soon out of sight. The Christian walked on and, as the road made a turn, he noticed a crowd of people before him. Coming up to the spot, he saw the young man to whom he had just before spoken the words of warning, lying a corpse upon the ground. His horse had become unmanageable and thrown his rider, who, falling on his head, was killed on the spot.

## **"THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, THE BODY AND BRIDE OF THE LORD"**

WILLIAM ROOT

In our last article, we were discussing the Church as an Organization. Reading from I Cor. 12:12-25, let us note: "For as the body is one and hath many members, and all the members of that one body being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free: and have been all made to drink into one Spirit, For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another."

Let us now sum up our subject concerning the Church. The Church of Jesus Christ is not made up of, neither can it consist of, the many professors of Christ, who are not possessors of the Word of Christ, without unity of faith and practice, being unorganized, claiming to be "born again Christians," without Church fellowship, and claiming to belong to the Church of Christ. Let us look at this subject systematically. First "Christ the Builder." Matt. 16:13-20, "When Jesus came into the Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist; some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, but whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bajona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."



From these verses we gather the following truths: Peter made the good confession of Christ, as being the Son of God. Of which like confession must be made by all men and women, and would get into the "Kingdom of Heaven." Second . . . Christ did not say he would build His Church upon the Apostle, nor any other man. Neither did He say He would build (as we understand) it upon the confession of Peter, or of any other man. After Peter's confession the Master had something more to say to him, that something was concerning the building of His Church, and upon what He would build it. The words "And I say also unto thee," prove as much, when we consider the word "also."

He told His disciples the foundation upon which He would build. That foundation was the "rock," meaning Himself a solid foundation, upon His Word, His doctrine. He would then deliver the "Keys of the kingdom of Heaven" to the Apostle, which "Keys" represent the "power and authority" of the "Holy Spirit" to open the door of the kingdom (Church) to the Gentiles. Also they were the authority for Church Government, the "binding and loosing." Matt. 18:17-18, also proves it. Upon Christ Himself, the "rock," that followed the children of Israel in the wilderness. Upon His authority. Therefore the church is an Organism, an Organization a Spiritual House, a Temple of the Lord, a Sanctuary, a system of faith and practice. It is the body of Christ, an assembly of people, believers, the called out.

The "Rock" who is Christ, was prophesied, as the Builder. Isa. 8:13-14. "Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself (His person); and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem." Also as shown before . . . Zech. 6:12-13, Isa. 9:6-7, a substantial building is erected upon a firm foundation, Christ Himself is that foundation, a Rock, the Law Giver. Isa. 28:16, "Therefore thus saith the Lord God, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation; he that believeth shall not make haste." There is none other such foundation, for a spiritual structure. I Cor. 3:11, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." That foundation will stand. II Tim. 2:19-20, "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

For that Spiritual house, He has select material. He selected, first, material to carry on the work of the Kingdom, which He later named His Church. He called first Peter and Andrew, then the other ten. He had work for them to do. Matt. 4:19, "And he said unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." He at



once began to instruct them for material in His Church. He gave them that great sermon on the Mount, and then He went about showing them His great compassion on the multitude. "Then saith he unto his disciple, the harvest truly is plenteous but the labourers are few."

"Christ's mission" in the world was to "seek and to save that which was lost." He died to save men and women from their sins. He completed the work which His Father sent Him to do. He died, was buried, rose from the tomb, gave His disciples a "Great Commission" and ascended into heaven, and is seated at God's right hand interceding for you and me. By and by He is coming again for His bride the Church, which is His body, of which He is the head.

The end

Selected by Joseph Lavy

## **MY KINGDOM IS NOT OF THIS WORLD**

Jesus was on trial before Pilate, and when Pilate asked, "What hast thou done?" Jesus replied, "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." John 18:36.

During the ministry of Jesus, it was evident that the Jews had their own concept of the Kingdom. One of the reasons they rejected Jesus as the Christ was because there was not enough "pomp" and "Majesty" about it. Their attitude was: "Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? and his sisters, are they not all with us? When then hath this man all these things? And they were offended in him." Matt. 13:55-57.

Because He was not what they had visualized, Jesus was rejected. And so was His kingdom. Jesus told the leaders of the Jews, "Ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in." Matt. 23:13. Many religious people of today who claim to follow Jesus have the same concept of the Kingdom as did the Jewish rulers. They fail to recognize that the Kingdom of Christ is not in existence, and they look for a future kingdom yet to come on earth.

The prophet Daniel had promised, "In the days of these kings (Romans) shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed." Dan. 2:44. Then Jesus speaking to His apostles said, "Verily I say unto you, that there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power." Mark 9:1. He then told

them just before his ascension back to the Father, "Wait in the city of Jerusalem until you be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49. He further explained the fulfillment of that in Acts 1:8, "Ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit is come upon you." When we turn to Acts 2:1-4 we find the coming of the Holy Spirit, and the rest of the chapter shows the fulfillment of the kingdom prophecies. Jesus Christ is now King on David's throne (Acts 2:29-36) and from this time people enter the kingdom.

Paul said that God "delivered us out of the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." Col. 1:13. Having received the kingdom that cannot be shaken. . ." (Heb. 12:28) and the Apostle John writes in Rev. 1:9, "I John who also am your brother, and companion in tribulations, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ." John and those whom he wrote to were in the Kingdom.

(The Church is the Kingdom of Christ)

Why some would like to separate them, I have never understood. But Jesus said, "I will build my church . . . I will give unto them the keys of the kingdom." Matt. 16:18-19. Peter shows the kingdom was begun (Acts 2:29-36) and the last verse of the chapter states: "The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

As Christ is king in His kingdom (Acts 2:29-36) He is "head over all things to the church." Eph. 1:22-23. Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven." John 3:5.

When people did that (Acts 2:36-41) "The Lord added them to the church." (Acts 2:47)

"Ye are come unto mount Zion, unto the city of the living God, and heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven . . . Wherefore having received a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us have grace." Heb. 12:22-28.

Those in the church are in the kingdom, those in the kingdom are in the church. The two words are simply different descriptions for the exact same group of people.

(The Kingdom of Christ Is a Spiritual Kingdom)

Because the Jews were looking for a military kingdom, which would restore the prestige and power of the reigns of David and Solomon, they refused the kingdom which Jesus did establish.

Many today who are looking for Him to return and set up an earthly kingdom, are making the same mistake! I don't know how he could have said it more plainly: "My kingdom is not of this world, else would my servants fight." But some refuse to believe that! The Kingdom which Jesus came to establish, and which He did establish, was "made without hands." (Dan. 2:45)

The borders of that Kingdom cannot be extended with swrods,

rifles, bombs or rockets. Only the "word of the gospel". I Peter 1:25 can further the cause of that eternal kingdom. For that word is "the seed of the kingdom." (Luke 8:11).

Some people believe that Jesus will come back to the mount of olives, enter "old Jerusalem" by the "Golden Gate" and set up His kingdom upon earth. Their prediction of a terrible war, with blood filling the Jesreel Valley, is gruesome enough: but to claim that such a military battle will win the victory for the kingdom of Christ is blasphemy which ignores every Scripture that shows the spiritual nature of the kingdom. The kingdom of Christ is NOW. Jesus reigns as King NOW. AND THOSE WHO BELONG TO HIM Jesus reigns as King NOW. And those who belong to Him are citizens in that kingdom NOW. And our battles are not to be fought with bombs or bullets: "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal". (II Cor. 10:3) "The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." (Eph. 6:17) is our only weapon.

"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. . . Every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom of God, even the Father, when he shall have put down all rule, and authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." (I Cor. 15:20-26)

Christ is now reigning. He will not return to set up the kingdom, but to deliver up the kingdom. He will not begin to reign when he returns, he will reign until he returns. Friend, don't wait for the Lord to come and set up the kingdom, but become a citizen in the kingdom he set up more than 1900 years ago. Those who belong to the Kingdom Church will be ready to be delivered up to the Father when the Lord comes.

Brother Isaac Stoll  
5605 Alta Vista St.  
Sarasota, Florida 33582



## FRUITLESS BANISHMENT

In the days of severe persecution in England, a judge said to an old saint: "I will banish you to America." "Very well," said she. "You cannot send me out of my Father's country."



## NEW ITEMS

### CLEARVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, we plan to have a two day meeting at Wards Church, July 28 and 29. Brother David Kegerreis will be our minister. Preaching will be at 7:30 Saturday evening and 10:00 Sunday morning. Please come and enjoy this time of fellowship with us.

Brother Daniel Vance

### SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Shrewsbury Congregation is looking forward to our Revival Meetings, August 5 through August 19. Bro. Leonard Wertz, from Quinter, Kansas will be our evangelist. Pray for these meetings, and come and hear the Word of God. Services 7:30 each evening.

Our spring lovefeast was May 27, and we were happy for those who came to enjoy the blessings of the day with us. We thank our visiting ministers who came and shared the Word of God. Brethren Virgil Leatherman, Emmert Shelly, Rudy Shaffer, Paul Hartz, Frank Shaffer, Laverne Keeney and Allen Eberly. Bro. Ronald Marks officiated in the evening.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

### NOTE OF THANKS

We have just come to the close of our fifty-sixth General Conference held at Roxbury, Pennsylvania. Again we were a blessed people that we could gather together from far and near. The meeting was well attended and God blessed us with beautiful weather.

Since we did not get to the Conference last year, someone thought of autograph books for my 70th birthday, and many of you wrote in it. I want to thank you for it. It brought back to us many precious memories and also those who remembered to send cards, God bless you all.

Quite a number of you who were in your teens with us, grew up, and now at this conference were carrying your grandchildren in your arms. You are still upholding the faith once delivered to the saints. Many have been the footprints that we have made through the various congregations. There are also thoughts that are not so pleasant and that is to think that some of the congregations are no more.

Many of you know we have just celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary, and many of you have taken part in it. We want to thank each one of you for your prayers, gifts and cards. Thank you again, May God abundantly bless and keep you.

Brother James M. and

Sister Amy M. Kegerreis

**DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR AUGUST, 1984**

*The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; By understanding hath he established the heavens.*

Wed. 1 - Prov. 1: 1-20  
Thurs. 2 - Prov. 4: 1-27  
Fri. 3 - Prov. 7: 1-27  
Sat. 4 - Prov. 8: 1-23  
Sun. 5 - Prov. 8: 24-36  
Mon. 6 - Prov. 25: 1-13  
Tues. 7 - Prov. 27: 1-27

Wed. Aug. 8 - Prov. 30: 1-16  
Thurs. Aug. 9 - Prov. 30: 17-33  
Fri. Aug. 10 - Eccl. 1: 1-18  
Sat. Aug. 11 - Eccl. 2: 1-11  
Sun. Aug. 12 - Eccl. 2: 12-26  
Mon. Aug. 13 - Eccl. 3: 1-22  
Tues. Aug. 14 - Eccl. 4: 1-16

Wed. Aug. 15 - Eccl. 5: 1-7  
Thurs. Aug. 16 - Eccl. 5: 8-20  
Fri. Aug. 17 - Eccl. 8: 1-17  
Sat. Aug. 18 - Eccl. 9: 1-18  
Sun. Aug. 19 - Eccl. 10: 1-20  
Mon. Aug. 20 - Eccl. 11: 1-10  
Tues. Aug. 21 - Eccl. 12: 1-14

Wed. Aug. 22 - Isaiah 1: 1-17  
Thurs. Aug. 23 - Isaiah 1: 17-31  
Fri. Aug. 24 - Isaiah 2: 1-11  
Sat. Aug. 25 - Isaiah 2: 11-22  
Sun. Aug. 26 - Isaiah 4: 1-6  
Mon. Aug. 27 - Isaiah 5: 1-10  
Tues. Aug. 28 - Isaiah 5: 11-25

Wed. Aug. 29 - Isaiah 6: 1-13  
Thurs. Aug. 30 - Isaiah 8: 9-22  
Fri. Aug. 31 - Isaiah 11: 1-9

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**COMES AS BREEZE**

No doubt you have sat under the shade of some large tree on a summer's day. Its long, drooping branches hung motionless, there was not air enough stirring to move them. All at once there came a faint murmur, the leaves above your head moved by a gentle current of air; then the branches began to sway to and fro, the leaves all became in motion, and now a soft, rustling sound filled the air. A breeze of wind sprang up, and that was the cause of the motion in the tree over your head. So it is, at times, in the experience of all who are born of the Spirit; when in a state of spiritual stupor, scarcely able to think a good thought, with heart empty and mind empty, there comes the sound, the influence of the Divine presence. The tongue is loosened, we are enabled to sing, to pray to speak. Before this divine breeze came we were dry, barren and sapless.

Lester Fisher  
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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 15

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## MY SOUL, BE ON THY GUARD

My soul, be on thy guard;  
Ten thousand foes arise;  
The hosts of sin are pressing hard  
To draw Thee from the skies.

O watch, and fight, and pray;  
The battle ne'er give o'er;  
Renew it boldly ev'ry day,  
And help divine implore.

Ne'er think the vict'ry won,  
Nor lay thine armor down;  
The work of faith will not be done,  
Till thou obtain the crown.

Fight on, my soul, till death  
Shall bring thee to thy God;  
He'll take thee at thy parting breath,  
To His divine abode.

- George Heath



## I DARE YOU

The story of David and Goliath is the first and best remembered Bible story of childhood. Not only is it the story of one boy's bravery when others were fearful and discouraged, it also is a moral concerning the triumph of good over evil and the righteous over the wicked. The Giant, who threatened to destroy the army of God's people, was brought down in what seems a far away time and place, yet, David's victory can be an encouragement to each of us.

Not only was Goliath an immense man but he threatened the destruction of God's people. He would have conquered them if possible. The Israelites were taken aback by the size and ferocity of this champion of the Philistines. There was a lack of faith and courage in the Israelite Army. They could not see any possibility of victory over their enemy. But David, when he arrived on the battle ground, was not taken aback at this man's boasts, rather he was dismayed by the lack of faith and courage within Saul's army. They were overwhelmed by a feeling of impending defeat.

Daily, Goliath hurled verbal challenges at Saul's army. He was daring them to make their stand for their God. He not only dismissed them but their God as well. This defiance of God grieved David. He was disappointed that none would champion the cause of God. The shepherd boy went forth to face the challenge.

Goliath's challenge was like the challenge faced by many today. He was saying "I dare you." He was calling them, "yellow" or "chicken." By many such words people are many times goaded into doing many unwise things. The dare drives them to prove their manhood, their daring or their ability. Usually the challenge is to do some unrighteous deed. This is an especially effective way of enticing young people into wrong. Not only the young, but even those

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older also, fall for the dare and are led into ways pleasing to Satan.

A dare or challenge does not have to be slanted towards the evil. The challenge can be to do good rather than evil. Instead of Goliath's challenge or dare that was aimed at God, we should send forth a challenge to young and old to dare to be different from the surrounding world, to be godly in life and thought, to be kind and loving and to be a witness to the lost and dying.

There are many challenges that the Christian must meet and overcome. Satan should not be allowed to frighten and discourage the Christian from doing what must be done. With Satan working busily to lead every one of us off the straight and narrow way, we must meet the challenge. We dare not be "chicken" enough to fall for his trap. We do not need to prove our fortitude or courage; we need to become dependent upon God for what we need in our lives. Having His help, we should take the action that is necessary to do our part.

Can we meet the challenge to do what is right in the midst of a crooked and perverse world? Can we dare to be different? There were scores of Old Testament characters who did dare to be different. In the midst of a people who were often discouraged, defeated and on the verge of heathenism, there were a few who dared to take the unpopular stand that favored God instead of Satan. Some paid dearly for their deeds but they are enrolled in the list of Heroes of the Faith in Hebrews 11.

Today there is a need for Saints with the same kind of mettle and desire, who will identify with the Church and hold her high rather than tear her down. There is always a present need for those who will live a disciplined Christian life. In the midst of an immodestly attired world and a professed Christendom that is little better, it becomes a real challenge for Christians to dress according to the standards that are Biblical. It is a real challenge to live a righteous life, when professing Christians live much like the surrounding world and often give the Church a disrespectful name. As we go about our lives, we probably won't feel very much like a David, yet the enemy is constantly hurling the challenge at us. Will we respond as David did? We have the opportunity every day.

It is a challenge to us that we be found accepting the godly challenge rather than Goliath's challenge. To accept God's challenge will bring eternal life through His help while the other challenge will bring eternal death and separation.

Will you live for God in all areas of your life, no matter how difficult or misunderstood it may be? I dare you to.



## OVERCOMING THE LUST FACTOR

Have you ever watched men's eyes when a less than modestly dressed girl walks by? Some men's eyes appear to be glued to her. They seem to give a frank, admiring stare with no shame whatsoever. They may even make some suggestive remark describing her.

We who claim to be a people of God are usually much more discreet with our looks. At the first awareness that a scantily clad female is nearby, our eyes immediately return to whatever we are doing. After she walks past, we then quickly make a careful inspection of the entire area to see if anyone is observing us. If the results of our inspection prove favorable, we may then allow ourselves a few glances, all the while pretending to be hard at work!

One problem we can't seem to overcome, however, is the guilt which sweeps upon us after such an occasion. It doesn't seem to matter that the glances are few and brief. The fact that we're "only looking" does not prevent the guilt from coming. The rationalization that it's not my fault, I can't help she dressed that way, does nothing to ease our conscience. We may even try to blame God for putting the basic drive in us! But Jesus Christ still teaches, "That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." And He follows that with this gem, "And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee..." (Matthew 5:28-29a). Our natural tendency is to become frustrated. We realize that looking at women for sensual enjoyment is sin, and yet it is so very enticing. What can be done to overcome this powerful desire to look?

### 1. THANK GOD FOR THE DESIRES HE CREATED WITHIN US.

We need to be thankful that we do not desire other men. Be grateful for eyes which can see. What's important is that we have a proper attitude toward God and an appreciation for how He made us. When we think that we're made of the dust of the ground, pretty girls as well as homely ones, it boggles the mind to think there can be such a strong temptation to look! Think about it. We have no problem with lusting after mud. Did you ever hear of anyone taking a picture of dust and carrying it around in his wallet so he can look at it every breaktime? And yet God took the dust of the ground, rearranged a few molecules, and we men can't seem to keep our eyes off His creation! We can be truly thankful for being fearfully and wonderfully made. (Psalms 139:14)

### 2. ASK GOD FOR HELP IN OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM.

The Bible teaches that you need to confess or acknowledge your sin (Jeremiah 3:13, I John 1:9). Tell God about the problem of the strong desire to look at women. Ask for strength to not yield to the lust of the eye. Realize that Satan is the one who gets the victory each



time you yield.

### 3. MEMORIZE VERSES AND REPEAT THEM OUT LOUD WHEN FACING TEMPTATION.

Scripture brings out great truths about this problem. For example, one solution is to simply watch the road so intently when driving through town that we see nothing on either side. When our determination to do this weakens on an unusually hot summer day when temptation is on every sidewalk, repeat over and over out loud Proverbs 4:25, "Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee." This verse was written for today!

Another truth is to realize that we were buried with Jesus Christ by baptism. We are to be dead to sin. Imagine taking a dead man and propping him against a wall — tying him up so he doesn't fall over. Now bring in the scantily clad daughter of Herodias and have her do her dancing. What would be the reaction of our dead man? This is to be the same reaction we have toward immodesty. In our walk with Jesus Christ, we are to be totally dead to sin. So as we're faced with the temptation to lust, repeat out loud Romans 6:1-10, which contains these truths.

There is something powerful about going over scripture out loud. I have found in my own life that I can't look and recite scripture out loud at the same time. If I repeated scripture out loud, I couldn't look. And if I looked, somehow I couldn't recite scripture. Just going over verses in my thoughts didn't seem to have as much power as saying them out loud. Reciting verses out loud requires more concentration and an effort — we need to move our mouths, our tongues, and our voice boxes. So to overcome lust, memorize scripture and recite it out loud when under temptation.

### 4. SHARE THE PROBLEM WITH A SPIRITUAL PERSON IN AUTHORITY.

Suppose a person thanks God for the way he is made, confesses and repents of his sin of lust, and memorizes the scripture — and yet does not overcome the sin. There is yet one more step to take. Seek out someone, whom you can trust, who is a spiritual authority. If possible, this person could be a father, or minister, or someone to confide in. Share the problem with that person and ask them to pray for you.

For some reason, we seem to take a straighter walk when accountable to someone else. When we know that next Sunday our father is going to ask how we're making out with the lust factor in our life, it tends to help our eyes stay focused on the road! I believe that many times, the reason for failure is our unwillingness to share our weaknesses with a responsible spiritual confidant. We need to ask someone to pray for us in our struggle to overcome lust.

As we fight the battle of lust, remember that overcoming temptation builds faith. God has promised that He will not allow us to be tempted above that we are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape. Remember that our permanent home is not on this earth. "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne." (Revelation 3:21).

Brother Robert Lehigh

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"Drinking"**

I can imagine when you read the heading on this article, your first reaction was.... this doesn't apply to me! I would pray that would be true from the standpoint of defiling your body, the temple of the Holy Spirit. But, unfortunately, with all of the pressures of society on old and young alike, I know this will apply to many of you.

Drinking is one of the hazards or roadblocks that Satan is putting before Christian people. As Christians, we are somewhat like cars... being driven and energized by the Holy Spirit. And just like a car might hit a hazardous place in the road, so we are going to run into Satan. Some people try to fill their tank with the fuel of alcohol rather than filling it up with the Holy Spirit.

I am reminded of a story of a farmer who won a car but had never seen one before. When he got the car delivered to him, he hitched up his horse to the bumper and rode in style. Sometimes we try to hook up the horse of the flesh to our lives and allow ourselves to be hauled around by it.

In Ephesians 5 we learn that before we can be filled with the Spirit of God, we must give up ALL drinking.

In America, there are over twenty million alcoholics. Joy is being looked for in a bottle. And, let there be no doubt about it, God wants YOU to be happy and joyful. But He wants you to find the resource of joy in the right way. He wants it to be in Him... not by any artificial means. Frustrated people in our day many times get themselves into a drunken stupor so they won't have to face the circumstances before them. Drugs serve the same purpose. People are seeking a form of escape and their solution simply adds to the problem. Intoxication is never the remedy for the cares of life.

I would also like to establish another fact... and that is that alcoholism is not a disease! It is just plain sin. It is something which has to be dealt with as sin. And you need only to look into God's Word to see its association with tragedy. Noah became drunk and in his nakedness acted shamelessly. Lot became drunk and his daughters committed incest with him. Nabal became drunk and at a crucial time, God took his life. Elah became drunk and was murdered by Zimri.



Belshazzar became drunken and his kingdom was ripped right out from under him. Drinking is always associated with terrible things... unrestrained living, immorality, wrecklessness and wild behavior. It also disqualifies a person from spiritual service.

If you have a problem with drinking, God can and will deliver you. We serve a God of miracles. Being Spirit filled will offer you the solution for which you seek. Isa. 1:18 says: "Though your sins be as scarlet, they can become as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

Paul deals with drinking by contrasting paganism with Christianity. The pagans actually believed that to commune with the gods, you had to put yourself in a drunken stupor. It is not so much different in the Payote church of the Navajo lands of New Mexico and Arizona today. It was at the root of the Greek and Roman mythological religious system, Eastern mysticism, and occultism.

The god of Greek mythology was named Zeus. He gave birth to Dionysius who became the god to control the earth, they said. The worship of him was characterized by wild music, dancing madly, sexual perversion and drunkenness. So, Dionysius became known as the god of wine.

When Paul tells us not to drink wine, he is NOT merely dealing with a social problem. He is dealing with a theological one at the same time.

The Corinthian church always had a hard time cutting themselves off from the evil system. They couldn't totally divorce themselves from the world and managed to drag some of the paganism into the church. They had even corrupted the Lord's supper. They were eating and drinking unworthily and apparently had brought drunkenness to the Lord's table.

Should Christians ever use alcoholic beverages? A survey taken recently showed that eight-one percent of all Roman Catholics and sixty-four percent of all protestants drink. This might even sneak into some aspects of some conservative churches. But we would like to establish that it belongs to the former life.

Proverbs tells us that wine is a mocker. A drinker is deceived. In the twenty-third chapter is an interesting description of drunkenness. This person has sorrow, contentions, wounds, immorality and sickness.

Over in Isa. 28, God gives a scathing indictment against Ephraim... the children of the Lord. The people lost their proper perspective towards God because they were drunk. Even the priest and prophet were drunk. The Bible states, "For all the tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean."

To be continued  
Brother Leonard Wertz



## AFRAID

Sometimes it is easier to fear than to face the issue and do something about it. It is easier to fear than to act. For example, when Jesus told the disciples to cast the net on the other side, it would have been easier to say, "Why should we try anymore?" It would have made more sense to argue and not act, rather than risk another failure. But for them as for us, obedience brought success. Facing the issue and overcoming the obstacle turned them away from fear of failure unto a greater faith in Christ.

Fear can be used as an excuse not to do the things we should. "I'm afraid I can't do it right." "It's too hard; I can't do it." Saying "I can't" may really mean "I don't want to." Think of Moses when God called him to lead Israel. He made several excuses, thinking God would give the job to someone else. But, in effect, God told Moses, "Don't be afraid of failure. I'll see to it that you succeed." The task was still Moses', not someone else's.

When we think matters through, common sense will get rid of most fears, as we'll realize how foolish and unfounded they are. Unreasonable fears are called phobias, and sometimes special counseling is needed to overcome those. But whether it's a special fear or a more ordinary one, God says, "Fear not." "Don't be afraid; trust Me; trust My Spirit to guide you."

Fear is like a trap, but faith and trust sets us free. Fear paralyzed Peter when he was walking on the water, and the result was he began to sink. His fear of the boisterous wind overwhelmed his trust in the Lord. Elijah had experienced God's care in many ways, but fear took over when Jezebel threatened him. Fear brought both men much distress, and it took special help from God to overcome this.

"For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee." Isa. 41:13. It is human nature to fear, especially in situations where we don't know what to expect. But we don't need to be afraid because God has promised to help us. He knows our weaknesses and wants to help us if we look to Him. With God's help, we can succeed and complete the task which is ours.

Fear kept many Jewish people from publicly confessing their faith in Christ. Nicodemus came at night to talk with Jesus. Joseph of Arimathaea was a secret disciple (see John 19:38-39). The parents of the man born blind were afraid to speak out after Jesus healed him. Sometimes we too are afraid to stand up for what we know is right. Or when the outcome is uncertain, we are afraid to take a step of faith and follow the Lord's leading anyhow. Yet Jesus said, "Don't be afraid." That is a reminder that we can trust Him to take care of us, no matter what the situation is.

"Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy

name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel." Isa. 43:1-3. No matter what comes our way, He will be with us. Whatever task is ours, God will grant us sufficient strength to complete that task. God is not limited, so don't limit Him by doubting. Trust Him — don't be afraid.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## THE ONE WAY TO HEAVEN

John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me."

Galatians 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

The subject we wish to look at is very controversial. We write in love and understanding for those who disagree with our thoughts. We confess our lack of intelligence but we hope that the Holy Spirit provides us with wisdom. If anyone feels we are "riding a hobby horse" we apologize for our lack of wisdom in this area. Our desire is not to bring discord among the Brethren, but to contend for the faith.

While we do not believe our Brethren who follow "Scofield theology" are strict dispensationalists, we are concerned with two areas in particular which this theology teaches. The one that seems close to blasphemy to us is that "Christ offered the Kingdom to the Jews. When they refused the offer Christ changed his mind and went to the cross!" This is part of the "postponed kingdom" theology. We realize all dispensationalists do not accept this. The other area of concern is the possibility of offering the Jewish people salvation outside of the Church.

We wish to look at Romans the 11th chapter. This chapter, more than any other, is used to "prove" dispensational teaching. Again we repeat, if our thoughts are in error we ask the forgiveness of God and man.

We believe that Paul expresses the major thought of this chapter in the very first verse. "I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin." Paul tells us that he is definitely a Jew (an Israelite). He tells us that God has not cast away his people but gives them the same opportunity that He gave to him. (We wish to insert at this point that we can not possibly quote all the scriptures in this chapter without making this writing entirely too long. We urge you to



read the 11th chapter of Romans.)

Verses 2 to 12 deal with the fact that Israel was blinded so that salvation could come to the Gentiles. We do not profess to have complete understanding on this subject. But it seems clear to us that Paul is quoting the Old Testament. Therefore, when Paul says they were blinded "unto this day" (in verse 8) he is not speaking about his time and certainly not about today. We also believe that salvation was always available to everyone. But we believe that what is being referred to is the fact that in the Old Testament era Gentiles would have been considered "second class citizens" and not allowed to hold office.

Verse 13 tells us that Paul is speaking to the Gentiles, not primarily to the Jews. Verse 14 tells us that Paul's desire is to "provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them." Paul wishes to give his fellow Jews the same opportunity that Jesus Christ gave to him on the road to Damascus. Verses 15 to 25 deal with the fact that Israel was broken off because of unbelief (verse 20). We feel verse 23 is important enough to quote. "And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again." In the previous verse (verse 22) God warned the Gentile believers that they, too, would be cut off if they did not continue in the faith. (We believe this is the current interpretation of "which fell.") Eternal security teachers will tell you this has nothing to do with personal salvation. The only alternative we can think of is that God would annul His gift of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Such thinking approaches blasphemy in our opinion!

Verses 25 and 26 are the key verses in dispensational thought. Verse 25 tells us that Israel was blinded "until the fulness of the Gentiles come in." Is this time fulfilled or yet to come? We can not take the space to enter into this as fully as we would like to. But briefly, most Bible scholars would agree that the Old Testament contained two groups of people, Jews and Gentiles. Our opening verse, Galatians 3:28 could read, "there is neither Jew nor Gentile" (rather than Greek) without changing its meaning. Verse 23 of this chapter reads, "But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed." Paul then goes on to say we were under a schoolmaster before this faith came but now we are all children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. He concludes this chapter with (verse 29) "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." This, we believe, is the "fulness of the Gentiles come in."

We will only have space for one more verse in Romans 11. The most controversial verse of all, verse 26. "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:" All are in agreement that this refers to



the Lord Jesus Christ. What is not agreed upon is when this will (or has) happened. We believe the answer is found in the very first verse of this chapter. "All Israel" will be saved the same way the Apostle Paul was saved according to him. How was he saved? By repenting, being baptized and receiving the finished work of Jesus Christ and allowing the blood of Christ to wash away his sins. (See Acts chapters 9 and 22.) He also told us in verse 14 that this chapter was written that it might "save some of them (Jews)". To interpret verse 26 to mean God is going to save an entire nation is doing injustice to the rest of the chapter.

All Jews, past, present, and future are ultimately saved by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. All Gentiles are saved in exactly the same way. There is only ONE WAY to Heaven. Whether you are Jew or Gentile we invite you to accept the gift of God to all mankind. The time to do so is now. We see no hope for you after the return of Christ or death, which ever comes first in your case.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch Street  
Palmyra, PA 17078



### WAITING SHARK

One day, while a vessel was sailing in the Pacific Ocean, along the Mexican coast, a person on board noticed what seemed to be a long, sharp, pointed knife, rising above the surface and cutting the water, while it kept along with the ship for an hour or more. On looking closer, the observer saw that it was the fin of a shark rising from his back. This creature was following the ship, ready to catch any poor sailor who might fall overboard. It was very large, and had cold, cruel eyes, which watched as the monster glided noiselessly along. Thus the Devil follows men and women, watching an opportunity to make them his prey.



### SATAN SURVEYS US

An enemy, before he besieges a city, surrounds it at a distance to see where the wall is the weakest, where it will be best to batter, where it is the lowest for scaling, where it may be approached with the least danger, and where assault will be to the best advantage. So the Devil surveys us soul and body, in order that he may tempt us at the weakest point. Thus he discovers whether our understandings are easier corrupted with error, or our fancies with levity, or our wills with forwardness, or our affections with sinful excess.

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

August 1, 1924

### FAITH AND TRUTH

J. L. Switzer

"For we walk by faith, not by sight." (II Cor. 5:7)

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Heb. 11:1)

"For the Lord giveth wisdom; out of this mouth cometh knowledge and understanding." (Prov. 2:6)

"Wise men lay up knowledge." (Prov. 10:14) How? By accepting these statements as the truth. Hence faith is the fundamental principle of all knowledge. Not one grain of knowledge do we get from any source, except by faith. Now, before we go further, I think of one of Josh Billings' sayings: "I would rather my boy would not know so much, than to know so much that ain't so."

Faith is a principle, not alone peculiar to the Bible, it's a universal, fundamental principle of intelligence; and there is faith in that which is not so, as well as faith in that which is. Hence, faith in order to become wisdom and knowledge to us, must be united with truth. Do you see the wise provision of Jesus when he said: "I am the Way, the Truth"? And again: "Thy word is Truth."

What is faith without truth? A snare, a destroyer, a delusion. The heathen has faith. He lives by it. If we are justified by faith only, why go as missionaries? If we believe a lie what is the consequence, according to Paul? (II Thess. 2:11)

Then faith in lies is not safe. Mother Eve had too much faith in the one who told her she should not die. So we, as well as she may have too much faith. Let us see how dependent we are upon faith. Mentally we are almost nothing else, we are composed almost entirely of it. How does a child learn, — learn at home, — at schools, learn history, geography, learn anything? By faith in what it is taught.

It is the same with men. Without faith, — impossible. That is the sum total; impossible to please God; impossible to please parent, teacher, pastor; impossible to know, to do, to learn, to be, to grow in grace. Paul says: "We walk by faith." I will add, we talk by faith, we write by faith; we are housed up in faith, we are reared by faith, environed by faith; so that faith is our mental atmosphere, our meat and drink and the body, soul and costume of the mind and heart. It makes us what we are, prevents us from being anything else than what we are, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he."

How careful God was to give precise instructions to the Israelitish parent for the instruction of his children. Why? Because the credulity and trust of the child must have Truth to feed upon in order to grow up



into a sound and healthy body of Divinity. "Train up a child in the way he should go." Feed his mind with fact. "Bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Canaan was destroyed. Why? Because the mind and heart of the Tribes were so poisoned by mythology and falsehood that they broiled their little babes in the arms of Moloch, and danced and shouted around them in revelry to drown their piercing cries, and then finished the jubilee with all manner of lewd and lustful practices. So poisoned were they with error that cure was impossible, and subjugation, to prevent their fiendish cruelties, a necessity. Ingersol said: "God should have sent them missionaries instead of soldiers." Ah, yes. God had sent them missionaries, times without number, but missionaries were rejected, persecuted and murdered. Love, entreaty, pleadings and mercy were rejected and powerless to reach them. There was no longer an element of sense or reform left to work upon; the whole head was sick. The whole heart perverted and faint. The poison of idolatry had corrupted every fiber, and death must follow. God knew this. He had tried every other way.

Ingersol presumed to teach God; but he did not practice his own philosophy. The Colonel went soldiering down South to free the slaves. Why didn't he go as a missionary? Nothing but conquest could wipe out southern slavery. Nothing but conquest could cure the heathen darkness of Canaan. God is wiser and more consistent than men, and the only right way under heaven for us is to believe God's word. Then we possess the right kind of faith.

How grand was that reply of our sister, "I dress plainly because God says I shall." How significant was the judgment of a worldling at the great Centennial Exhibition, "There goes a virtuous woman." She was dressed in modest apparel. I have often wondered why the church should not make provision to have her members clothed in harmony with the Gospel, as well as to have them fed by it, or in harmony with it. Are not these supplies of food and raiment the best for us?

Clothes do not make the Christian. No, but the Christian should make the clothes. Which pattern shall we cut them by, Christ or the devil? The pattern of holy women of old, or the patterns of harlots of Paris? "The Lord giveth wisdom; out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding." Well said, Solomon!

After gazing for years upon the shameful and outlandish manipulations that proceed from Sodom, I am constrained to believe the Lord a better tailor and dressmaker than the best in Paris. And I firmly believe that if a sheep insist upon going to the devil for its wool, the church should leave the ninety and nine and go out after that sheep. I furthermore believe that the church that does not do so is not doing as Jesus did, will soon be as spotted as a leopard, and as raw in its drill as a band of butternuts of fifty years ago.

Bro. Miller speaks of an old Proverb: "See Rome and die." With the



Christian, at the risk of using a slang phrase, I will say: "See the Fashion Plates and Die", unless the church has a care for her children: "For if ye live after the flesh ye shall die, but if ye through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." (Rom. 8:13).

Faith must feed upon Truth. The word of God is truth. The Church is the Ground and Pillar of the Truth. The Church is the visible representative of the body of Christ upon earth. Its members are brethren, sons of God, children of God, heirs of God, brethren and sisters of the Lord Jesus Christ, holy and beloved, sanctified, washed, a bride, cleansed; and "Jerusalem which is above is the mother of us all."

Do we not do well, therefore, to have a fervent love and zealous care for one another? What would our Father say? What does our Mother say? What does our Elder Brother say? Aye! What do they all say? What have they said, over and over again and again? "Love as Brethren." "Be pitiful; be courteous." "Be kindly, affectioned one to another with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another."

"So we being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." "Restore the erring one in the spirit of meekness." "Bear ye one anothers burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another." "Mark them which cause divisions among you." "Keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." "Teaching and admonishing one another."

"See that none render evil for evil unto any man." "Count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother." "But if he will not hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man a publican." And then too, "Let the churches hear what the spirit saith unto the churches."

Remember Lot's wife, and Sodom, and Ephesus, and Smyrna, and Pergamos, and Thyatira, and Laodicea.



### DISAPPOINTED DOVE

A boy who had a dove so tame that it would perch upon his shoulder and take food from his hand, one day held out a tempting morsel, but, as the boy was in an illnatured mood, he closed his hand just as the dove was about to eat the food. The bird turned away disappointed. Again the boy held out his hand. The dove came forward timidly, but again the hand was closed. With drooping wings the dove went to the further corner of the room. Once more the hand was extended. This time the bird hesitated. Finally it came forward, slowly, hesitatingly. It was just about to take the food when the hand was again closed. Then the dove spread its wings and flew away. The boy never saw that dove again.

## MARRIAGE

Sis. Melody D. Stump, granddaughter of Delma and Barbara Stump of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania and Bro. Dean W. Miller, son of John and Charlene Miller near Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania were married May 12, 1984 near Dillsburg, Pennsylvania. Bro. John Pepper had the meditation and Elder Jacob Ness officiated in the marriage ceremony. Dean and Melody are living at R. 2 Box 332, Seven Valleys, Pennsylvania 17360.

## NEWS ITEMS

### BROADWATER CHAPEL, MARYLAND

The Lord willing, the Broadwater Chapel Congregation looks forward to a week's revival meeting, July 29 through August 5. The Lovefeast will be held Saturday, August 4.

Bro. Otto Harris of Ridge, West Virginia will be our evangelist. Come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Lavona Sines, Cor.

### A NOTE OF THANKS

We want to express our appreciation to all that remembered us over the past several weeks. We thank you for all the cards, gifts and visits. Most of all, we thank you for all the prayers on our behalf. What a blessing it is to have Christian friends to help lighten a heavy load. Continue to pray for us.

In Christian Love,  
Bro. & Sis. Timothy Siegrist

### THANK YOU

I would like to thank all our friends and loved ones for the kind help and prayerful support after my accident. All of the gifts, cards and visits were much appreciated. My hand is healing very well though I will have one more operation. Thank you.

Brother Melvin, Barbara  
and Erin Marks

### WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation plans a Revival from September 2 to September 9. Our evangelist will be Bro. Fred Pifer, Dallas Center, Iowa.

We invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 16

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## COME, LET US SEARCH OUR WAYS

Come, let us search our ways and see,  
Have they been just and right?  
Is the great rule of equity  
Our practice and delight?

What we would have our neighbor do,  
Have we still done the same,  
From others ne'er withheld the due  
Which we from others claim?

So we, in all we sell or buy,  
Integrity maintain?  
And knowing God is always nigh,  
Renounce unrighteous gain?

Then may we raise our modest prayer  
To God, the just and kind;  
May humbly cast on him our care,  
And hope his grace to find.

— Isaac Watts

## ALMOST AND ALTOGETHER

With this rather strange phrase, Paul invites Agrippa to become a Christian. Although Paul was the prisoner and Agrippa the king, he was the freer of the two. He wished for Agrippa the same freedom he had. Although he was behind bars and perhaps in stocks, he was freer than the king who had the power to free him or detain him. So Paul could wish that Agrippa would be like himself. He could wish him to be not almost like him, except for his fetters, but altogether like him in Spiritual life.

There are many things about Agrippa that could have impressed Paul. Agrippa was king. He had power, even over Paul's freedom. He was a man learned in the customs and beliefs of the Jews. Paul could have deferred to Agrippa, instead he wished him to be a Christian. Paul knew that power, position, education or even philanthropy or good-will could not be substituted for the plan of salvation. Agrippa must make that altogether change if he were to be a Christian. He could not be half and half. He could not be a "fence-sitter." Today there are many who might "almost" be Christians but they refuse to be "altogether" Christians. God will not accept that almost choice. Joshua said to choose you this day whom ye will serve. Elijah castigated the people for halting between two opinions at Carmel. Jesus said a man could not have two masters. There cannot be total service to both, either one or the other will predominate.

Many today want to live in a grey shaded area. They do not want to take a stand for black and white. They want to compromise. But we find that the Bible writers were not grey men but men who stood for the Truth. The Apostle John spoke very boldly, not allowing a grey area to creep in to weaken the witness of truth. The other writers are just as bold in presenting truth. Jesus could be

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

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very meek and mild but yet we never find Him softening truth or denying His own Godly self.

Today living in a very cosmopolitan world we are apt to hedge a little on the truth and the standard of righteousness. We do not wish to offend anyone so we lessen the intent of the Word that feelings not be hurt. Can truth do its work if it is diluted?

There are many ways the world and "almost" Christians have had an effect on the message and standard of the Church. Something a little less than the standard is accepted, so the standard itself is weakened. Even the weakened standard will be attacked and weakened even more as the influence of the world and the "almost" Christian is continued.

One of the examples of this weakened standard is in the area of modesty. Because the world's standard of modesty is low or even non-existent, the Christian may very easily lower his own standard. The clothes that were judged to be indecent a few years before become acceptable because they are now "more modest" than the world's current fad.

Can anything be said to be modest which is less than the Biblical standard of modesty? When we consider modesty we must look at all parts of the clothing and body arrangement, not just one area. Modesty is promoted by all the doctrines given pertaining to personal appearance. This modesty is not often to be found today even in most Churches.

The hair has a part in modesty. The woman's hair is given to be uncut and done up in a way that allows the prayer covering to be placed over it. The man's hair is to be cut short and uncovered in time of worship. Modesty is found in the face that is not altered by cosmetics. To change the features that are God-given is to be immodest for He has designed our features according to His desire which is modest. The body is to be covered so its form and shape are covered. Because the world's styles tend to show more and more of the human body, Christians sometimes feel that they can wear clothing that while immodest in past times would not be considered so suggestive in these liberated times. The guidelines for modesty are valid not only for women but also for men.

Other areas of the Christian life are also in danger of being compromised away. It behooves the Christian to be careful in what he allows in his own life and in what he finds pleasure in the lives of others. Christians dare not be like Agrippa, almost Christians. They must be altogether Christians like Paul. Which kind are you?



It is the will, and not the gift that makes the giver. — Lessing.



## NATURE'S COURSE

"Let nature take its course." "Do what comes naturally." You've heard these comments, no doubt, and maybe even used such statements yourself. They indicate if you follow your natural inclinations that things will come out all right. If nature is allowed to take its course, the situation will get better without help, but will it? The answer is no and this is a very poor philosophy to follow.

Think a moment about what man's nature is. In the plant and animal kingdom, nature will generally work things out if allowed to, but not so in the human race. Man's nature is to sin, not to do good. Man's natural inclination is to go against God's will for his life. In short, man's true nature since sin entered in is to do just about anything except what God intended.

It is common knowledge that you don't have to teach a child to lie. Instead, you must teach that lying is wrong. The child already knows how to lie, and if nature is allowed to take its course, the lying will get worse, not better. So it is with sin in general. Because the sin-nature is within man, it is natural to sin until, and unless, Christ is given control.

One basic problem we all have starts with an untamed tongue. "And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell." James 3:6. The tongue reveals our true nature quicker than anything else. Unless Christ has control, the tongue will be out of control.

"Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others." Eph. 2:3. Our nature is to do as we please, both in our natural and our spiritual lives. It isn't natural for us to put others first, nor to seek God's approval for our lives. Generally, we do what we want to, whether others like it or not.

There is only one way for this sin-nature and selfish living to be changed. That is through Christ. Until He transforms us, the old nature will rule, and this nature will take its course. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him." 1 Cor. 2:14a. The natural man isn't interested in spiritual things, and truly needs a change of heart in order to please God.

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Rom. 12:2. Man's old nature and the course it takes will conform him to this world. But the new nature makes a whole new life possible. A transformation takes place which will be visible to all, a change which points mankind to God.

"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness -- that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature." From II Peter 1:3-4. Man needs the divine nature to take over in his life, but his own efforts to change will not accomplish this. Through God's power is the only way man's heart can be changed, and this in turn changes the course of his life.

Man's nature leads him to a life of sin and separation from God. When he receives the divine nature, this leads him to a Godly life and close fellowship with God. Which nature is taking its course in your life?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **DRINKING**

#### **Part 2**

God forbids drinking. In the book of Hosea we find it linked with adultery and prostitution. Any act of drunkenness or drinking, no matter how minimal, is a violation of God's standard of living in the Spirit.

When we hear people say that there was some wine drunk in Bible times this is true. But let's understand something about it before we make judgments. The most common word for New Testament wine is OINOS and this simply refers to the juice of the grape. SHAKER is the Old Testament Hebrew word for wine and it is a term denoting very strong drink . . . as we see today.

New Testament wine was usually mixed with water. It most always refers to the thick, unintoxicating syrup or jam produced by boiling to make it storable. Boiling causes evaporation of the liquid and when the liquid was gone, the fermentation capacity was lost and it could be stored.

According to Pliny, the Roman historian, this thick syrup was then dissolved in water and became a drink. There is NO WAY that wine drinking can be defended today on the basis that they drank wine in Bible times . . . unless you drink the same unintoxicating thing that they used.

In the Word, wine that was unmixed with water to dilute it was considered barbaric. Even a half and half mixture was considered strong drink and was unacceptable. The dilution would have been no more than 2.25 to 2.75 percent alcohol which in America would not even be considered an alcoholic beverage.

Besides, in that time it was sometimes necessary to drink more purified liquids, but today it is totally past necessity.

In Leviticus 10 the priests were told in verses 8-11, "Do not drink

wine nor strong drink; thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die." They were called to be separate and on a high level of devotion just as we are as priests. God wanted their minds clean, clear and pure. He wants ours the same way.

The Nazarite vow disallowed the use of alcohol. That vow was the highest act of consecration that a Jew could make.

Jesus said in Matt. 11:11 that John the Baptist was the greatest man who ever lived and according to Luke 1:15, he drank neither wine nor strong drink. He was a TOTAL abstainer!

Read in Amos 2 and Jeremiah 35 and see the contrast in allowing any wine to reach the lips and total abstinence. Has God lowered His standards for us today? To even touch the unclean thing is sin. (II Cor. 6:17) The best choice is TOTAL ABSTINENCE.

Pastors are to be blameless, not given to wine. The greek meaning there is "being beside wine." That is away from it.

Have we been strong enough? Heb. 2:15 says if you get your neighbor drunk, God is going to spew on you and make you drink His cup of judgment.

There is great mental destruction in drinking. One-fourth of the patients admitted into mental hospitals have alcoholic problems. It defiles the body . . . causing destruction of the liver. Over forty-one percent of all violent deaths are alcohol related. Seventy-three percent of the drivers responsible for accidents are under the influence of alcohol. It is deadly!

It can well become a stumbling block to the weak and that is another sin. (See Romans 14:13) If we are to cultivate righteousness, peace and joy, if we are going to build up others and not tear them down, we will practice total abstinence.

A drink will also ruin your testimony to others. You will lose your witness. You must let the world see that there is a total difference in being a Christian. If you can't do something with a completely free conscience, believing with all your heart that it is right, don't do it! If you do, you will push yourself deeper into self condemnation and self imposed guilt and that, too, is wrong. Conscience is a tool by which God convicts you. If you violate your conscience again and again, you will build up so much scar tissue that when God wants to convict you in a sensitive area, you won't even feel it!

So then, as we bring to a conclusion the matter of drinking alcoholic beverages for any reason, let us walk as the wise . . . that we might be prepared for the glorious coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and that we might spend eternity with Him. Would you trade that for a little wine?

Brother Leonard Wertz



## TRUE UNITY IN CHRIST

John 17:11 "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are." (Prayer of Jesus Christ.)

According to a report we read, the Pope recently addressed an assembly of the World Council of Churches. According to this report, he told them that unity can only come by recognizing him as the head of the church.

While Brethren are not actually Protestants, the Anabaptist movement actually pre-dates the Protestant Reformation and can be traced back to the New Testament Church, we do hold them up as fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. However, we cannot have complete unity with them because they historically refused to completely come out of Roman Catholicism, a false religion. Unfortunately, much of modern Brethren worship practices and theology is more Protestant than Anabaptist-Pietistic in nature.

Another group which refuses to be classed with the Protestant movement is the various groups of "Fundamentalists." But we cannot have complete unity with them either, although we also recognize them as fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Their unconditional eternal security and military involvement for Christians is completely opposite New Testament teaching.

Some have accused that many of our Brethren practices came from the Catholic church rather than scripture. We must remember that just because Rome practices (or has practiced in the past) a particular thing it does not automatically make it unscriptural. The Roman Catholics taught many truths and continue to do so. They rightly held to a Triune God. They taught the deity of Jesus Christ, (but then turned around and denied it by making Mary equal with Him). The Pope rightly opposes abortion and "women preachers" (which they of course call priests). The Catholics had a type of prayer veil for women in worship. This was scriptural. We do not, however, believe that the Brethren prayer veil was a holdover from Catholic thinking. Likewise, the plain suit for men has nothing to do with the garb of priests, but was a sign of being nonconformed to the world. (Romans 12:2)

Today when many groups think of unity they state, "It doesn't matter what we believe just so we are in the family of God." This type of thinking is contrary to the bulk of New Testament teaching. The largest part of the New Testament is warnings against false teaching and instruction concerning proper dress and personal habits. All too many Christian gatherings spend more time explaining why the Bible DOES NOT mean what it says than prayerfully desiring to follow its teachings! We hold these

individuals in living fellowship, but we would not want to be in "their shoes" when it comes their time to stand before God to be judged. We are glad a perfect God will decide who enters Heaven and who spends eternity in Hell. We take the words of Paul to Timothy (given by the Holy Spirit) very seriously. II Tim. 4:2-3 "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;" We believe that although Paul was addressing a minister (called out) this verse can be used by all Christians. We also believe that verse three is true now in much of the Brethren faith. While we hold them in love, we believe that the Charismatic movement and the Fundamentalists of our day have come close to destroying true scriptural belief in many Brethren circles. In a sense, they are more dangerous than the liberal movements such as the World and National Council of Churches. We would hasten to add that we have much more in common with most of the Charismatic and Fundamentalist groups than we do the liberal element. In fact, in our opinion, a liberal who denies the virgin birth and other truths concerning the person and work of Jesus Christ cannot be saved. He must turn around and fully accept the diety of Jesus Christ and His shed blood for his sins. This is the teaching throughout the New Testament.

Another saying we have heard is "We must put people before things." This has a ring of truth to it. Certainly the scriptures teach that we must first have love for all men. But when the "things" referred to are truths God has given us through Holy Scripture, this saying does not "hold water."

As Brother James Myer (Moderator-elect of the Church of the Brethren) has stated, "We are ashamed to be Brethren." We believe with all our heart that Brethren teaching (historical) is Bible teaching. This does not mean that our forefathers were infallible or without fault. We are not to worship them but the true God through our Lord Jesus Christ (who is God the Son). We desire unity within the earthly church. But we do not believe in unity that compromises Holy Scripture to make it succeed.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St., Palmyra, PA 17078



You may depend upon it, religion is, in its essence, the most gentlemanly thing in the world. It will, alone, gentilize, if unmixed with cant; and I know nothing else, which alone, will. — Coleridge



## HATH GOD CAST AWAY HIS PEOPLE?

(ROMANS 11)

There are a number of questions that are asked in this 11th chapter of Romans, that we need to face today. Not only are questions asked, but the answers are also provided that we need not be in darkness on this subject.

Question #1, verse 1, "Hath God cast away his people?"

Who are "his people" that are herein spoken of? If you will read chapters 9, 10 and 11, you will see he is speaking of the nation Israel. Now then, hath God cast away the nation of Israel? In verse 2 comes the answer, "God hath not cast away his people." Now as proof of this, we must read verses 2 through 5. Here Elijah is brought to our attention, and it is pointed out that he made intercession against Israel and felt that he alone was left. The answer of God to his silly notion was verse 4 "I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal." If you will study the history of the children of Israel, you will find that every time they were displaced by a foreign power because of their sins, God always reserved a remnant that they might be restored when they repented and called upon Him.

Now I want to draw your attention to two little words in verse 5. "Even so", with these two little words God is saying, "Do you want to understand this? Then compare it with that, because this is just like that." So at this present time, that is to say in the church age, there is still a remnant of Israel just like there always has been in time past.

There are many post millennial Elijahs who "feel" that Israel has been permanently set aside, because they crucified Christ, and only the Church remains. This is only feeling and not fact.

Question #2, verse 11 "Have they stumbled that they should fall?"

That is to say, have they fallen that they should never rise again? The answer, "God forbid." God has a purpose in their blindness and stumbling. #1. That salvation should come to the Gentiles. #2. That this in turn would provoke Israel to jealousy.

Let us as individual Christians, endeavor to win the individual Jew to Jesus Christ, according to the Gospel. And let us also praise God for His divine providence in history, as the nation of Israel is provoked to seek the Messiah whom they crucified, according to the election. Verse 28.

Question #3, verse 12, "How much more their fulness?"

To answer this question the writer goes to the olive tree. Comparing natural branches with wild branches, he shows that Israel will bring forth more fruit than the Church. Now the Church brings the true riches to the world, which is the message of



salvation through Jesus Christ; but when Israel turns to God, and takes her place as the head of the nations, and ushers in the millennial kingdom; this world will see things it never saw before. See Isaiah 2:2-4 and 11:6-9.

Let us go back to Elijah and Elisha. When Elijah's ministry was finished, he was taken up in a whirlwind. A double portion of his spirit fluttered back on Elisha, who then performed twice the number of miracles Elijah has performed. Oh, what a day it will be when the saints are caught up to meet the Lord in the air (I Thess. 4:16-17), and God's Spirit falls on Israel. It will be life from the dead. Rom. 11:15.

Question #4, "For how long have they stumbled?"

This question is not asked in this chapter, but is anticipated by the writer. A similar question was on the disciples' minds when they saw Jesus for the last time. Acts 1:6-8, "Wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom of Israel?" Jesus did not tell them that they were mistaken in looking for the restoration of Israel, but he instructed them that there would be a time and season of witnessing. Paul then answers in harmony with this period of witnessing in verse 25 "until the fulness of the gentiles be come in."

The fulness of the Gentiles, refers to the completion of the Church. In Luke 21:24 we read "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." The times of the Gentiles refers to Daniel's great image of Gentile dominion from Babylon to the Millennial Kingdom. As the church nears her completion; Israel will be gathered back to her land, go through great tribulation, and be converted. Matt. 24:15-21, Ezekiel 37:1-14, Daniel 12:1, Jeremiah 30:7. "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28.

A word of reproof: verse 18, "Boast not against the branches."

Paul used these words to reprove the first roots of post millennialism that were springing up in the Church of Rome, even as God reproved Elijah for making intercession against Israel. Today post millennialism is a full grown system of Bible interpretation. Which says: 1. God is through with Israel as a nation. 2. The Church takes the place of Israel. 3. The Old Testament promises to Israel should be spiritualized and applied to the Church. 4. The Church is the kingdom. 5. We are not in the Millennial. 6. The devil is now chained up. 7. The book of Revelation has been fulfilled in past history. This wisdom is "conceited" (verse 25) and shouldn't be allowed to take root in our understanding, but rather should be reproved.

Remember, "As concerning the Gospel, they are enemies for your sakes; but as touching the election, they are beloved for the father's sake." verse 28. "And so all Israel shall be saved," verse 26. "And to this agree the words of the prophets;" "how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:" Acts 15:14-16; Hosea 3:4-5. "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" Verse 33.

In Christian love,  
Brother Berton Smith

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

August 15, 1924

### **WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?**

A. W. Zeigler

We say we believe that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world and that he has all power in heaven and on earth. If we admit the above and if we love the Lord our God, with all our heart, soul and mind (Matt. 22:37) we then have a splendid foundation of faith.

Now then, let us see how our building will line up with our foundation. In Gal. 5:24, we have this, "And they that are Christ's, have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." Verse 25 says, "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Why does Paul add this verse? Do we not fully realize if we have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts, that we are walking in the Spirit and are Christ's? Yes, but in this verse we see that there is danger of living in the Spirit, or rather pretending to live in the Spirit and yet not walk in the Spirit. (II Cor. 3:2). "Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men." (Verse 6), "Who has made us able ministers of the New Testament, not of the letter, but of the spirit, for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." So here we see again that there is a danger of living in the spirit by letter and yet not walking in the spirit or in plain words, "He that saith I know him and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him. (I John 2:4).

So then to walk in the spirit is to keep his commandments. There is plenty of preaching of the love of God, but scarcely anything about keeping his commandments. (I John 5:2-3), "By this we know that we love the children of God when we keep his commandments, for this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments and his commandments are not grievous." Now



then, if we have faith in Christ as our Saviour, and confess before God and man, and are as Philip said to the Eunuch when he said, "See here is water, what doth hinder me to be baptized." Philip said, "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest." Now we are living in the Spirit and if we go no further than to be baptized, we will soon die, spiritually and not realize we are dead, but now comes the "all things, whatsoever I have commanded you." Here is where humility begins and where the walking in the Spirit begins, and where obedience by works comes in, to prove our faith.

It is not so hard to get people to confess Christ, as long as they can do it with their mouth only but when they must put in practice the things that are commanded they will not do them. This shows they are not walking in the Spirit, and are not in Christ and have not "crucified the flesh with the affection and lusts." If just saying that we believe in Christ would save us, why would the Lord have added so many commands for us to do? But that is about all you hear from the pulpit these days. Just believe. If we had a close friend of ours that had never told us an untruth and he would tell you he had put a hundred dollars in your mail box down at the cross-road for you, do you think you could make anyone believe that you really believe it is there for you, if you will not go and see? Anyone with good reason would tell you that you do not believe that it is there or you would go and see. And yet, we will tell the people we believe in the Lord Jesus and yet we will not do what he tells us to do if we want eternal life.

But the chances are we would go and look for the money, even though we had no faith in its being there. We would take no chance of losing the money by not going and looking. And here we have the Lord offering us eternal life by obeying the commands, something that is worth more than the whole world and still many, many try to make people believe they love the Lord, but will not do what he tells them. They may fool some people, but they cannot fool the Lord. "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say unto you!" As long as our faith is not strong enough to put in practice the things he commands us to do it is not a saving faith, and we lack walking in the Spirit. We must come out from the world, and be separate from the world and be ready to lay aside all worldly things, that are a hindrance in running this race, as Paul calls it. We must let the word of the Lord decide what is a hindrance in this race, for He is the one that will give the reward.

Now the affections and lusts of the flesh are the foolish things of the world, the foolish fashions of dress and decorating our bodies with jewelry and ornaments and putting this on our children that are not in harmony with bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. We should always put only such things on our bodies as will create a likeness of Christ and His teachings. All



unnecessary things are a hindrance to the cause of Christ, either directly or indirectly and yet some of our members try to imitate the world in styles of all sorts, and especially those that are supposed to be ensamples to the flock. What do they believe? Are they led by the spirit? Are they walking in the spirit? Do they love the Lord? They say they do, or do their actions speak louder than their words? Oh, what a pity. Yes, we will have to say with Brother Lepley in Monitor No. 6, "What is wrong with our church?" Dear Brother, does it not press upon our souls when we see the leaders of a church that once stood for the plain teaching of God's Word now, as it were, trampling it under foot and who even point the finger of scorn at those that try to live the Christ life?

### IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS

How many times has it really been said,  
That the time we need God is when we've been bad?  
Or when it looks like our world's crashing in,  
Of the headaches and heartaches of our lives in a spin.  
Or when it's predicted to rain Saturday,  
But we planned to go camping, and paint, and make hay.  
Or when we are sick or so near to dying,  
That we come to our God on our humble knees crying.  
And we beg and we plead until tears come no more,  
That God would just hear as we knock at the Door.  
"Dear God, can't you see that our plans have been made,  
And we need you just now before the daylight will fade.  
It's a bad situation — why let it happen to us?  
We don't bother you except in a bad fuss."  
"You've said it so clearly, my child, quite clear,  
But you have it backwards and all wrong, I do fear.  
But you have it backwards and all wrong, I do fear.  
I want you to talk to me more than you do,  
So I've sent you some sickness and unhappiness, too.  
Why don't you remember to thank Me each day,  
When everything's bright and going your way?  
For it's when all is just right and going along fine,  
That I want you to visit on Heaven's phone line."

—Sister Marie Eberly

## OBITUARY

### DOTTIE PIFER

Sister Dottie Virginia Pifer was born October 11, 1926, the first child of Bro. Jesse and Sis. Emma (Bowers) Sauerwein.

Sister Dottie was born again September 6, 1942 when she accepted Jesus Christ as her Saviour and was united with the Church of the Brethren. She became united with the Dunkard Brethren Church at Quinter, Kansas in 1950. Soon after the family moved to Pennsylvania in 1951, she moved her membership to the Walnut Grove Congregation where she faithfully served until her death, May 22, 1984.

She is survived by her husband, Brother Glenn W. Pifer, her children, Brother James of Spring Grove, Pennsylvania, Brother Fred of Dallas Center, Iowa and Sister Linda of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; six grandchildren; two sisters, Ruthanna Sauerwein of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Betty Shelly of Littlestown, Pennsylvania and one brother, Jesse Sauerwein of Taneytown, Maryland.

Funeral services were held at the Mummert's Church of the Brethren, Abbottstown, Pennsylvania on May 25 with Elder James Kegerreis in charge assisted by Brother Virgil Leatherman. Interment was in the adjoining cemetery.

Phillippians 1:20-21 "... so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks to relatives, friends and neighbors for their visits, prayers, gifts and love during Mother's illness and this time of bereavement.

## NEW ITEMS

### PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Lord willing, there will be a Harvest Meeting at the Plevna Church, September 9, 1984. Elder William Carpenter of the West Fulton Congregation, Ohio will be our speaker.

We invite all who can to come and be with us on this day of worship and fellowship.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

## DIRECTORY INFORMATION

If you want your name included in the directory, please send the information by September 1. Each congregation has a list of the needed information.

Sister Jolene Andrews  
Rt. 2  
Raymore, MO 64083

## THANK YOU

A "Heartfelt Thank You" to each one who remembered us with prayers, letters, cards and telephone calls after Joe's heart attack and surgery. We appreciate very much the love and concern you have shown us. We can only thank you but we trust God will bless you. We still need your prayers as his recovery is slow, but God has been so good to us and we praise Him. Thank you again.

In His Name,  
Bro. Joe and Sister Arlene Flora

## GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

Lord willing, the Grandview Congregation, will have their Revival Meetings this Fall, September 16 through September 23. Bro. Dennis St. John, Bryan, Ohio will be our Evangelist.

The Lovefeast Service will be on Saturday Evening, September 22, with all day services and services through Sunday.

Come, and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

## MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Bro. Rudy Shaffer is: R. 2, Box 8, Cuba, New Mexico 67013. His telephone number is 505-731-2293.

## NOTICE

The Lord willing, a series of one week Revival Meetings will be held at the Strubhauer Church, Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, August 19-26 with Brother Jack Snyder as the evangelist. All who can are invited to attend these meetings.



We are indebted to Christianity for gentleness, especially toward women. — C. Simmons.



## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1984

### ON THE EARTH

Memory verse: Isaiah 12:5

Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.

Sat. 1 - Isaiah 12:1-6

Sun. 2 - Isaiah 13:1-11

Mon. 3 - Isaiah 13:12-22

Tues. 4 - Isaiah 14:1-32

Wed. 5 - Isaiah 17:1-14

Thurs. 6 - Isaiah 18:1-17

Fri. 7 - Isaiah 24:1-12

Sat. 8 - Isaiah 24:13-23

Memory verse: Isaiah 40:28

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

Sun. 9 - Isaiah 25:1-12

Mon. 10 - Isaiah 26:1-11

Tues. 11 - Isaiah 26:12-21

Wed. 12 - Isaiah 28:1-17

Thurs. 13 - Isaiah 28:18-29

Fri. 14 - Isaiah 30:18-26

Sat. 15 - Isaiah 33:1-24

Memory verse: Isaiah 55:9

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Memory verse: Isaiah 42:4

He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.

Sun. 16 - Isaiah 34:1-17

Mon. 17 - Isaiah 35:1-10

Tues. 18 - Isaiah 37:1-38

Wed. 19 - Isaiah 40:1-17

Thurs. 20 - Isaiah 40:18-31

Fri. 21 - Isaiah 41:1-29

Sat. 22 - Isaiah 42:1-25

Memory verse: Isaiah 44:24

Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the Lord that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

Sun. 23 - Isaiah 44:1-28

Mon. 24 - Isaiah 45:1-25

Tues. 25 - Isaiah 48:1-22

Wed. 26 - Isaiah 49:1-26

Thurs. 27 - Isaiah 51:1-23

Fri. 28 - Isaiah 52:1-15

Sat. 29 - Isaiah 54:1-17

Memory verse: Isaiah 45:22

Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

Sun. 30 - Isaiah 55:1-13

Memory verse: Isaiah 48:13

Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together.

Lester Fisher  
4664 N. State Rte. 48  
Covington, OH 45318

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

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SEPTEMBER 1, 1984

NO. 17

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## GENTLE SHEPHERD

The Gentle Shepherd leads His sheep  
Along the safest route . . .  
He won't let them and the lambs  
Roam anywhere about.

The Gentle Shepherd teaches them  
To give heed to His call . . .  
Keeping them close beside Him  
So they won't ever fall.

The Gentle Shepherd holds the lamb  
In His strong loving arm . . .  
And soothes it when it has fear  
Of the wolf that would harm.

Who wouldn't want this Gentle One  
To warm it when it's cold --  
And lead it on the safe route  
That ends in Heaven's fold?

— Sister Irene Stout

## PREJUDICE

We all have prejudices — many of them. We have preferences toward certain colors, brands of foods, makes of automobiles and many other things of everyday life. These prejudices are natural and of no moral importance. But when prejudices affect our relations with other people, they then become very important.

"Prejudice" means to prejudge. Our minds are made up no matter what the facts may be. Jurors when enpaneled are questioned that none who sit on the jury might have made up his mind before hearing the testimony or seeing the evidence. As Christians we need to be careful that we are not prejudiced against others because of their appearance or deeds. We need to be careful that we have not judged them before we know them. How often first impressions will give us a false impression because of the prejudice that we already hold.

As Christians we are instructed by our Saviour that we are to love our enemies. If we have judged someone prior to knowing them, they have become our enemy, inwardly, if not outwardly. Even though we do not approve of that person's lifestyle or beliefs we still must show the same kind of love for them that Jesus would. After all we are to be imitators of Him, that is why we are called Christians. We are to be like Him. We need to overcome the tendencies of our natural man and allow the love of Jesus, first shown to us, to flow through us to those we might be prejudiced against.

To love those with whom we disagree, does not mean that we must approve or associate with them. But we dare not judge them for that is God's prerogative. God's judgment will be just for He is True, all-seeing and all-knowing. God is not a respecter of men's persons. God created man in His own image, therefore as the

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

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highest of His creation God does remember and is mindful of mankind. He was willing to pay the terrific price that was needed to redeem mankind. So He does respect men as His Creation. But He does not respect men on the basis of who or what man is by his own efforts.

As citizens of the land we respect those who bear the rule over us, but God does not. We look up to those who have accumulated houses, lands and riches, but He does not. We cheer the famous but God does not. God knows already what is inside of man whatever the outward appearance may be. However hard and persistently a man may have worked to amass a fortune or to become famous or to win high position, he could have accomplished nothing if God had not given him the ability, health and strength to accomplish all these things. God's provision for men is not meted out as we would do it. God, in graciousness, gives even to those we would think not to give to. He does not show respect due to man's external accomplishments because He knows that in the Creation He made all men to have one blood. There may be many races and tribes in this world but under the outward differences they are all the same. Their physical makeup is the same. Their emotional and mental frame is the same. Their Spiritual life is also the same — all have the same natural tendencies to sin.

From Creation on down through history, God has followed the course of man. When left to himself man has always gone downward. Only by God's help could he make any real progress. Therefore man cannot really impress God thus He does not owe any special respect to men.

If God does not look at men through eyes blended by prejudice, then we need to be careful how we view others. We dare not either lift them up to heights they are unfit for, nor doom them to undeserved depths. Each person must stand or fall upon his own relationship and obedience to God. It is not by nationality, language or heritage that any are accepted or rejected by God. He is not a respecter of persons.

Have the make and model of automobile that you want. Choose the color you wish. Eat the food of your choice and season it as you wish. These prejudices are fine. But be careful what prejudices you have concerning people. As God's child use His method — love.



Give what you have. To some one it may be better than you dare to think. — Longfellow.

## POSITIVE REACTIONS TO NEGATIVE ATTITUDES

Suppose someone died and willed a large estate to a congregation. The members of that congregation begin splitting into one of two groups: those who would like to keep the estate, and those who feel it should be sold. There are numerous discussions among the members, as each side builds its case. Slowly the "Keepers" tend to shy away from the "sellers." But alas, soon there are differences of opinion even among the "keepers." Some of the "keepers" think the church should heed James 1:27 and use the estate for an orphanage. Others think the church should rent the estate to a farmer and put the profits into the church treasury. Their reasoning comes from Matthew 25:14-30, where Christ related the parable of the talents. They feel that the church should put to work whatever assets may come its way.

While the two groups of "Keepers" argue among themselves, the "sellers" take the verse in Matthew 19:21 where Jesus says, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell what thou hast . . ." But the unity of spirit among the "sellers" soon disappears as they discuss how to use the money that would result from the sale of the estate. One group of "sellers" feels the church should heed Matthew 18:19-20 and use the money for missions. Another group feels that the congregation could benefit by using the money for a new church building complete with modern facilities. They refer to 1 Kings 6 and how Solomon built the Temple of the Lord. Still another group feels strongly that the money should be put in the bank, as it says in Luke 19:23, and use the interest as a guaranteed income for the church treasury.

Instead of a united congregation, we now have a church with five different schisms. Each group feels very strongly about its position and most generally feel they have Scripture to back them up. As this goes on, each begins to feel animosity toward the others, and never realizes that Satan is the author of all this contention! All sides think they're on the Lord's side, while feeling persecuted by those holding opposing views. The contention goes on and on, expanding to other issues. Sometimes there are sharp flare-ups, and other times there are smouldering embers. It is usually unpredictable. We are not discussing issues which are made clear in the Bible, such as the Virgin Birth, the Deity of Christ, His atonement for our sins, and so forth. But there are many issues which are not clearly mentioned in the Scriptures. We want to consider how to transfer those burning coals into zeal for the Lord Jesus Christ.

### 1. A DIRECT APPEAL TO GOD.

The first thing to do when we sense negative attitudes is to bring



the situation to God in prayer. In Matthew 18:19, Jesus promises that "if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." Many times there are two or more persons affected when negative attitudes are displayed. Thus it becomes possible to claim this promise of Christ, and pray that contention would cease. For those who are married, this verse can apply to a husband-wife team, who can find it possible to become a powerful force under God.

When an offense is committed, the natural thing to do is to ask God to curse or "bring down" our enemy. But consider carefully the results. In Acts 13, we read of the account where Elymas the sorcerer withstood Paul and Barnabas by seeking to turn away a deputy who was desiring to hear the Word of God. In verses 10 and 11, Paul tells Elymas, "O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to prevent the right ways of the Lord? And now behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand." Paul appealed to "the hand of the Lord," and Elymas became blind. But we need to be careful about our motives and our attitudes.

In the account just cited, the offense was clearly defined, and a mighty man of God invoked the tremendous power displayed. This solution is very powerful, and not something with which to trifle. Remember, Paul was dealing with a sorcerer, a man sold out to Satan. We should be very cautious before asking God to actually make someone go blind. Prayer does change things, and we should pray about our concerns. But before taking such drastic action, as to pray for a person to become blind, let's explore further alternatives.

## 2. THE PRINCIPLE OF MATTHEW 18.

Christ give four clearly defined steps for us to use in dealing with offenses (Matthew 18:15-17).

Step 1: "Go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone."

Step 2: "Take with thee one or two more . . . that every word may be established."

Step 3: "Tell it unto the church."

Step 4: "Let him be unto thee as an heathen man and publican."

This is a straightforward and efficient manner for handling offenses. When there is a specific contention between two or more persons, the method described in Matthew 18 is God's way of dealing with the problem. When followed, there will be no



festering contention over endless years, no bickering back and forth in congregations, and no constant criticism of fellow believers. Let's explore this further.

Step 1: "Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother." There are several responses when a person feels offended. Some constantly remind those around them of the faults of another, and so there is a steady stream of nagging and criticism. Others tend to pass things by and not be very much bothered by small things. But if the offending person does just one more wrong thing -- sometimes the balance tips in the wrong direction. Then the offended person suddenly "happens to recall" all those little things done over the years, and really "blows his top."

But Christ tells us that, in handling the offense, we are to go to our brother. It is best to cool down first, and get control of oneself. But go — don't let it fester. Tell him alone. Don't humiliate him in front of a group of people, and don't get it established in the local gossip circle! The Bible tells us to keep it between him and you alone (for this first step). It's wrong to teach a lesson or to preach a sermon "at" one person for something he did that we feel is wrong. The Scriptural way is to go to that person as a brother (not as king or lord over him) and tell him. This gives us an idea of the proper attitude we should have.

The end for which we are striving is to "gain thy brother." This is our first goal. Too often, we go with the ultimate goal or retaliating. He will be able to sense this in our spirit.

Step 2: "But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established." This is to insure that proper attitudes are displayed, and also for the purpose of having witnesses, should it become necessary to bring the issue before the church. However, it may be, that during the intervening time God will soften hearts and by the time the extra witnesses are brought, the conflict can be resolved. If there continues to be a problem, we are to go on to the next step.

Step 3: "And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church." If the person will not make things right when the witnesses are present, then the issue is to come before the church, and the church is to try and gain the brother. There may be different avenues which will be open, but there is a need to become reconciled.

Step 4: After the proper procedure has been taken, and if there

is still no softening of hearts, and no reconciliation takes place, then the offending person is to be treated as an "heathen man and a publican." He is no longer a brother. However since even an enemy is to be loved, we must treat the person with respect (as one for whom Christ died). Maybe at a later time restoration and healing can take place. This is the goal toward which we should strive.

When a person in the church is involved in sins clearly mentioned in the Bible, such as adultery, fornication, witchcraft, murders, and so forth, and gives no sign of repentance or reconciliation, then our course is clearly defined. If he will not hear one, or several, or the church, he is to be dismissed from fellowship. This is the clear-cut directive God gives in His Word (1 Corinthians 5:1-13).

But what happens when there is no clear-cut offensive sin. How about the sin of strife, which is mentioned in the same list as the aforementioned sins (Galations 5:19-21)? Somehow it's easier to pinpoint the sin of intentional murder or adultery than it is to identify the sin of strife. The problem is, that in cases involving contention, it is usually difficult to name the offense as a clear-cut sin against God. Often there's not really any specific wrong action which has been committed. Rather, it is a general undefined attitude which seems to cause the conflict. Before steps 2, 3 and 4 of Matthew 18 are taken, shouldn't we first try and do everything in our power to fulfill the end of verse 15, which says, "if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother?" In the next part of this article, we will consider how to gain our brother.

To be continued  
Brother Robert Lehigh

## NO ROOM TO SPARE

"And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" 1 Peter 4:18.

Even though we realize the Christian life is serious business, it is easy at times to get a little careless and let down our guard. Other times, we might think we've done our duty, and now we can rest. After all, we can only do so much. But is there a point at which we can start taking it easy spiritually? Do we ever have room to spare?

We already know the position of the sinners, those who have not accepted Christ. Eternal life will not be granted to them as long as they continue in sin and unbelief. But if they seek God and desire to serve Him, they will no longer be condemned. What then is expected of those who believe in Christ?



As a believer, you can never say you've done enough. You can never say, "I've done my share and now it's someone else's turn." There is no room to spare, no time to take it easy. Retirement time for a Christian doesn't come in this life. Instead this is our time to work for the Lord, and to encourage others when we can. It is also our time to grow spiritually, and to learn more and more of God's ways.

When Christ comes into your heart, and you give Him His proper place in your life, there will be plenty for you to do. This is the beginning of what should be an active Christian life. You will not be able to sit around idle and think you've done all that's necessary. Whatever you do for the Lord, it will never be more than enough. You can't exceed the amount of service required.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Rom. 12:1. It is not unreasonable to expect you to serve God wholly, to put your whole heart into it. There is no room for carelessness, for neglecting one's duty. There isn't any room to spare — complete service is expected.

"For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil." 1 Peter 3:12. God sees the needs of His own and hears their pleas for help, but He turns away from those who ignore His will. No matter what you do, or how good, if you do not accept Christ as your Savior and Lord, God will not accept you or your works. There is no leeway, no room to spare.

Either you believe in Christ or you don't. Either you're serving or you're not. There's no middle road. Good works won't balance out the bad, and Church membership won't save you either. Without Christ, there is no salvation, but with Him, there is life everlasting.

"The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death." Prov. 14:32. If there's ever a time we need hope, it is certainly when we face death. For the righteous, there is hope of eternal life, not because of a good, moral life, but because of Jesus. This hope must be established before death comes — it can't wait. There is then no time to spare, no room to change courses. If the righteous scarcely be saved, there is NO hope for the ungodly. Where do you stand before God?

Sister Eileen Broadwater



## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "Being Positive"

Although we are to be humble and abased we should never feel worthless. People today are frustrated because they can't seem to match up to the criteria that the humanistic society has laid down. You don't look right, you don't feel as "popular" as you would desire to be. You seem so powerless to change these situations. I am amused that we want to be nicely tanned today and consider it very attractive when several years ago it was considered ugly. Skinny was once not considered attractive either. The "hefty form" was considered the ideal, especially for the feminine gender. Society dictates what we want to be.

God wants you to accept His definition of beautiful and He desires to make you beautiful from the inside out. God made you exactly the way you are so you could best reflect His beauty. You need not remake yourself to be pleasing to Him. Are you to say that He did a bad job when you were created? How do you like it when someone tells you something you created is ugly? I feel the Master Designer of the Universe doesn't appreciate nasty comments about you either. Ps. 139 says you are "fearfully and wonderfully made."

"Worthless" and "ugly" have no place in the Christian's vocabulary. You may seem unco-ordinated but God made you and your lack of co-ordination will somehow bless Him. You may seem slow of mind. That was God's way for you. It will bless Him in some way. You may get tongue-tied every time you try to communicate with someone. So, you are not an orator. Neither was Moses and God was to use him to lead millions of His people from slavery to the edge of the Promised Land. You cannot and should not try to be all things to all people. You will only become distressed or depressed because you do not recognize your limitations. Use the positive Characteristics you do have to bless God and others.

Getting out of a low self-image syndrome involves deciding who is really important to you and who is going to shape your image of yourself. If you let society do it, you will always come out a loser because no one can be good-looking, witty, successful, intelligent, athletic, musical, and well informed, all at the same time. If you are striving to conform to the image of Christ you have your priority in the right place. The Word tells us Jesus wasn't particularly attractive. There wasn't a physical attraction that would draw you to Him. But there was definitely a spiritual attraction that would draw you. You would be overwhelmed by His love, His concern, His empathy, His "realness."

You might feel you'd have better self worth if you married just the "perfect" person. That would put you in a position of acceptance. I would warn you that there is just as much insecurity in marriage as there is in the single life. Married people with wrong priorities end up competing with each other and sometimes eventually tear each other down.

If you decide that God is going to be so important in your life that nothing else matters, you will then have the sense of comfort and understanding that you have been looking for. The God who made our universe and controls the galaxies, the One who presides over history loves you . . . warts and all . . . with a constant love. "He careth for you." In the light of this fact, should what other people think about you really be that important? If God is really FIRST in your life, the opinions of others will never ruin your self-image.

You are God's creation. You are special. You really can thank God that you have knobby knees, red hair and freckles and at the same time confess to Him that your motives are selfish and need to be changed by Him.

Going around trying to impress everyone with your knowledge and good qualities is not where it's at either. You will eventually turn them off and they will see that you are only seeking attention. Be positive, be sincere, but do not be an egotist. Replace your self-consciousness with Christ-consciousness.

Finally, live as John the Baptist, understanding that Christ must increase and that "I" must decrease. Then you will be able to develop a strategy for coping with feelings of inadequacy and inferiority.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

**September 1, 1924**

### **WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?**

#### **Part 2**

**A. W. Zeigler**

I am afraid there are too many of us giving our consent to those things that we know are wrong, by keeping silent. Do you know the devil is perfectly satisfied if you only do not oppose him in his work? We need not roll up our sleeves and help him in his work to satisfy him. Just don't say anything, the devil will tell you; as sure as you say anything you will just get into trouble and by this quotation he satisfies many souls and they sit down feeling



justified for keeping out of trouble. God bless the soul that will stand for the truth in Christ, even though it be to his own hurt. Do we believe what He said? He said we are to keep His Church without spot or wrinkle. (Eph. 5:27). Can we do that when we are doing exactly the opposite by mixing up with the world in politics and helping to enforce laws and discipline of government and neglecting discipline in the church that was set up by the Lord and Saviour Himself. It looks as if we are trying to present the world without spot or wrinkle. Would it not be the safe plan to stick to the thing God told us to do? I know if the leaders of our church would have stayed by their job as the Lord intended them to do they would have the church a lot nearer to His standard than it is at this time. Then we would have something to induce the people to come out from the world and live the Christ life, but when we become so near like the world that they cannot distinguish us from the world, they may as well stay where they are. So we need not wonder that the church has lost its power it once had. What do we believe?

The word says we should let our "light so shine that they may see our good work," and not put our light under a bushel. Where are many putting the salutation of the kiss? Where are many of the sisters putting the prayer covering? What have they done about Matt. 18? So we might add one thing after another which has been laid aside by some who have taken up things of their own fancy instead. Someone may say, "You are saying too much. They are not laying aside anything." I say again what do we believe? Do we believe in the holy kiss and at the same time pay out a hundred and fifty or seventy-five dollars for individual communion cups? Which speaks the loudest, saying we believe in the kiss of charity and do not practice it, or spending the money and using the individual cup? You cannot and dare not try to harmonize the two. If you did, the very reason you would give, or could give, would debar you from using individual cups or from practicing the kiss. Oh! humility is gasping for breath in our church.

Let us double our effort for humility, for it is the keynote of God's children to hold them to the faith once for all delivered to the saints. Again do we really believe all of God's Word to be true? Why He said He is a Spirit; and all that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit; in truth. Yes, they say they believe that. If they believe that to be true, what do they want with an instrument in the worship of God? They can't worship God with something that man made and that is without life; oh, they say they do not aim to worship God with the instrument; well do they want something in the house of God that they cannot worship God with? They admit



they cannot worship God with the instrument, and then by their statement they admit they have something in their worship that is unnecessary, and anything that is not necessary would naturally fall to the worldly side of the question. They say we can learn to sing better. How does the Lord say we are to sing? Sing with the Spirit and with the understanding. They say we can sing better with something that kills, that has no understanding, and no Spirit. Have they "crucified the flesh with the affections and lust? Then comes their last argument when they can find nothing to support their reason for what tickles their ears; and makes them like other churches. They say, "well the scriptures do not say that you can't have instruments in the church for worship"; the very thing they will not take as a guide in their church policy. What kind of a church would we expect to have if we would accept that theory as a guide? What could we do with the use of strong drink as long as we would not get drunk? What would we do with tobacco, something that is not mentioned in the Bible? Do we believe what God says? We can only worship Him in Spirit, and when we use something in His worship that we can't worship Him with, we are worshipping the instrument and He said we can't worship or serve two masters. Is there not plenty of scripture by the tenor of the scripture? The word "Must", means here if you try to worship Him in any other way than in the Spirit and in the truth, evidently you are not worshipping God, but yourself or something else beside God. Oh, if we would spend more time in meditation of God's word, instead of just taking things for granted that we hear, we would give the Holy Spirit a wonderful chance to guide us into all truth which we cannot do without much meditation.

## CHRISTIAN LOVE

Christian love is a never dying love. It is as vital to the Christian life as the breath of air is to the life of our natural bodies. God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that we through Him should not perish but have eternal life. Jesus was always willing to do the will of God. He said this is my command that ye love one another as I have loved you. John 15:12. He loved so much He gave His life for us. There is true Christian love existing among Christians. When Paul spoke of the virtues he said the greatest is charity. It is a sad condition when enmity takes the place of love among professing Christians. What is our choice; sin unto death or obedience unto righteousness? Love thinketh no evil. False reports originate through the evil one and are a hinderance to the upbuilding of God's kingdom here on earth. We know we pass from death unto life if we love the Brethren.

Husbands are to love their wives and wives are to love their husbands. There is no true love among people who seek and obtain a divorce. The Lord intended those that marry to stay together till death in this life.

It is necessary for us to remain faithful and true to the high calling of God in Christ Jesus to the end. Many times the lack of love has caused much trouble among professing Christians. If we want the blessings of God with us it is necessary to keep His commandments. Those who have true Christian love abide by the Golden Rule and have no carnal strife.

Enmity and hatred scatter. Gather them in from the fields of sin. Love leads to peace. True Christians are a peace loving people. Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God. Professing Christians who destroy the good reputation of others in an unjust way have not the love or peace Christ brought among professing Christians. Where love exists there is peace and unity. The great sacrifices of our Heavenly Father and His Only Begotten Son, through their love extended to us, by accepting it we can become the children of God and be a blessed example to others. Enmity and hatred brings forth strife. Christian love brings peace and unity unto righteousness. True Christians are a bright and shining light to those who are living in darkness. When love exists where is peace and unity. When we have Christian love we keep Christ's Commandments and have love and concern for others as exemplified by Christ. Are we qualified with true Christian love? True Christian love can be seen by action and deeds through words and works of righteousness. All things work together for good to them that love God. Rom. 8:28. Salvation can only be obtained by obedience to the saving Gospel of Christ. We prove our love by obedience to the saving Gospel of Christ.

Brother J. F. Marks

R. 9, Box 860, Plant City, FL 33566

## **THE CHURCH AFTER THE RESURRECTION**

"For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thess. 4:15-17.

After the rapture, we know not how long the marriage of the Lamb takes place in heaven.



"And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:" Rev. 19:1.

"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God." Rev. 19:6-9.

Then the Lord of Lords with His saints comes to earth. "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war." Rev. 19:11. "And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called the Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean." Rev. 19:13-14. "And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORD." Rev. 19:16. "And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image." Rev. 19:19-20.

Afterwards the Devil is bound. "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years." Rev. 20:1-2. "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." Rev. 20:4-6.

In Rev. 21:1 we see there will be a new heaven and a new earth. Then the new Jerusalem comes down from God out of heaven. Rev. 21:2. In Rev. 21:3-4 the church is given great and comforting



promises which shall be fulfilled hereafter. Rev. 21:5-7 also have great promises to those who overcome. Later there was an angel who talked with John, saying, "Come hither, I will shew you the bride, the Lamb's wife." Rev. 21:9. Rev. 21:10, "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God."

Rev. 21:27, "And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are wirtten in the Lamb's book of life."

Sister L. E. Flora

## NEWS ITEMS

### McCLAVE, COLORADO

The McClave Colorado Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church is looking forward to a one week Revival meeting, from September 30, 1984 to October 7, 1984. Brother Paul Stump will be our Evangelist.

Services convene at eleven o'clock on Saturday morning, October 6, with afternoon and evening meetings and the Lovefeast at 7:30 P.M.

We hope all who can, will come enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

## THANKS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to thank each and everyone for their gifts, cards, food, visits and flowers while I was in the hospital and recuperating at home and especially for your prayers.

There are not words that can express my appreciation for everything that was done. May God bless everyone of you in a very special way is my prayer.

Sister Blanche Eberly

### WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

The Walnut Grove Congregation plans to hold a Revival effort starting September 30. The Lord willing, Elder Eugene Kauffman from Harrisonburg, Virginia will be the Evangelist. These meetings will close with our Lovefeast on October 7.

Pray for God's Blessings and that His Will be done. We invite you to attend and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Betty Shelly, Cor.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 18

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## SUBMISSION

Submit yourselves to the leading  
Of the Holy Spirit,  
Of all the good things God offers  
There isn't a limit.

He will open your eyes to truth,  
Show you the way to go,  
Increase your faith in the Gospel,  
Teach you things you don't know.

But there's a work for you to do . . .  
Faith without works is dead,  
Obey all the ordinances  
And keep pushing ahead.

You can't expect that you will have  
A life that's free from care,  
Yet faith and trust will stronger grow  
In answer to your prayer.

—Irene Stout



## CONSISTENCY

One of the necessary ingredients for success in any field, whether temporal or Spiritual, is consistency. A great rush of energy followed by little effort will not result in any lasting success. The need of consistency is shown in the seed sown by the Sower.

The first seed that fell on the pathway was but easy gotten food for the birds. That seed could not even make an effort to germinate and grow. The seed that fell on the dust covered rocks did make a quick effort to grow. But the shallowness of the soil and the heat of the sun soon discouraged its efforts. It could not consistently sustain its early success. The seed amongst the weeds in its early growth grew and developed but the weeds got ahead and soon the crop from the seed was lost. It was not consistent throughout the whole season. The last seed which did bring forth bountifully was consistent. It germinated, it grew because of a good root system anchored in the deep fertile ground. This seed and its resultant blade and then its grain continued a consistent pattern from sowing to harvest. There was no giving up in the middle either to the elements nor to the weeds. The rain and the sun rather than hindering actually became a help.

Consistency is needed in each of our lives. Too often we have an occasional burst of energy. We are on fire for the Lord. We are interested in Spiritual things. We become great students of the Bible and great workers in the Church. But by and by, there is a lessening of our zeal. There is no longer the same rallied enthusiasm. So eventually lethargy replaces our efforts. The lack of consistency brings less success than we had desired and can cause dismaying of ever succeeding so we become discouraged and give up.

Consistency is important in all types of endeavors. The businessman who wishes to prosper must be consistent. He must

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keep regular store hours. He must have a line of goods that is of a consistently high quality. He must have goods or services that a large number of people want consistently.

A child's parents must be consistent. First they must be agreed together about how to train the child and what standards of discipline will be enforced. Then there must be a consistent application of that standard. The child can be punished severely one time for doing something wrong and then merely excused the next time. This creates a quandry in the child's mind about what standard he is to keep and causes him usually to seek the easiest way.

A consistent journey through life is one neither fraught with dangerous lows of despair nor excessive highs of ill-considered effervescence. We find many today who on special occasions can mount up to great heights of enthusiasm in the Lord's work but who in a short time have exhausted their enthusiasm. A Christian life is generally a course covering many months, years and decades. Consistency over the whole span is needed to be successful. There are many examples of those who have striven for awhile but have given up because of some opposition or hard place in the way. The consistent one may not be so dazzling or fast as the other, but continually striving on he will succeed where the other fails.

The year after year grind of life will in the end determine more of success than that short period of brilliance that does not last. Some may become discouraged because they compare themselves to others. Even ministers may feel left out if their preaching does not inspire the popularity and praise of those who hear as readily as some who are more gifted or audacious. But the one or two talent man must continue on in his course and be consistent.

The straight and narrow way requires a consistent pilgrim. To stay within the boundaries or standards of that highway requires a day by day effort that veers neither toward one ditch or the other. Each one who sets out on that journey will find many obstacles but a consistent effort daily will overcome those obstacles more readily than a somewhat effort at one time and a mighty effort at another.

The roller coaster may be fun or scary depending on the person riding but in the end all the peaks and valleys will have gotten him nowhere for it ends right where it began. The peaceful, placid lake will offer more of value whether merely for pleasure or for fish. Life is not meant to be a roller coaster ride nor a sentimental drifting with no course. Life is serious and demands an effort daily. That effort will eventually bring forth the success that we seek. Consistency is a pearl that we each need in our lives.

Are you on course towards that goal that lies beyond this life? Be consistent and it can be yours.



## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"VEILING FOR THE CHRISTIAN WOMAN"**

In this modern age, the veiling of women professing the Christian life has been put totally aside except for a few Bible believing churches. I am concerned that this modern influence could creep into even the conservative church today because many people are vague as to its significance.

It is somewhat incorrectly called the "prayer veiling." It is much more than that. It is also not just a cultural practice since I Corinthians 11 teaches it as a vital doctrine.

In this chapter we are taught that keeping the ordinances is praiseworthy and the wearing of the veil is an ordinance. The teaching did not just originate in the mind of Paul but is a commandment of the Lord. It must have universal application and is in no way cultural. Some today preach that one culture may use it and another is exempt from it. That is false teaching. If this chapter can be localized or applied only to a certain culture, then it would also be true of Chapter 13, the love chapter, or any other portion of the Word of God.

The wearer of the veil acknowledges the fundamental of divine leadership. By wearing the covering, the Christian woman shows her submission to the God-given order of headship. This is God's plan, not man's. It is wholesome and right and should bless your life rather than become a bondage. It places the correct emphasis on the order of Christ, Man, Woman and Children. Without it, the sister is not in proper submission to man nor to Christ. If the man tries to bypass Christ to reach God, he is in violation of God's law. So, also, if a woman bypasses man by not being properly veiled, she has no access to Christ.

The veil is necessary for right worship and service. It puts her in a position of honor as she collectively worships with the man. This does not give her the authority to usurp authority over the man nor to teach in God's house but allows her to be in harmony with the collective attitude of the church service.

The veiling shows appreciation for the angels. It allows the sister to claim the protection of the angels. It shows the fear of the Lord and we are taught that "the angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him." To refuse to be veiled shows a spirit of unbelief or rebellion against the Scriptures and puts the woman in a very vulnerable position.

In addition, as holy angels are in subjection to God, so holy women are in subjection to the man. We learn that the holy angels covered their faces in the presence of God and likewise, holy



women cover their heads in the presence of man and Christ.

It is amazing that men today will uncover their head when they worship and pray but the same men will not apply the rest of the teaching relative to their women in the church. In the early church era, it was becoming to a woman to be veiled and not pray or prophesy unveiled. If she was uncovered, she was considered like the heathen priestesses who prayed and delivered the oracles bareheaded or with dishevelled hair. In addition, the hair was always left long as a mark of their sex, as an ornament of being female, for its beauty, and as a result of God's command. To cut it short removed her badge of womanhood and submission.

It is consistent with the scriptures for the sister to be covered at all times. The kerchief or head scarf should not be substituted for the veil as it fails to identify your convictions and support of the church. Usually alternative coverings are worn because they are less offensive to the world. In other words, there is an attitude of compromise involved.

It is equally important that the veil remain large enough to cover the head properly. When the hair becomes more prominent than the covering, you can be assured that the veil is too small. If you remember that it is not just a symbol but an actual requirement of the headship of God, then you will feel comfortable in keeping it an adequate size to bless Him and show your willing obedience. The sequence of apostasy is shown in our desire to be minimal in our standards of Christian obedience, conduct, and dress.

The simple hair style of the Christian woman is the only one that properly matches the veil. Hair that is styled and cut would be totally out of context with a covering. Modern styles are designed to show a woman's independence rather than dependence. They show aggressiveness rather than submission. They ultimately show a woman who puts herself above Christ and His demands for her life. Both the natural covering of the hair and the veiling are discussed in this chapter and both are of utmost spiritual significance.

Finally, a life lived inconsistent with the modest dress, simple hair style and veiling would negate the meanings of these symbols and ordinances.

In addition, the wrong attitude in being obedient with the practices we have discussed will ruin the blessing you might receive. Be content and happy in the position in which God has placed you and show forth a countenance expressive of your love for Him.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## POSITIVE REACTIONS TO NEGATIVE ATTITUDES

### PART 2

In the first part of this article, we studied two steps in dealing with contention among brethren: A direct appeal to God, and the principle of Matthew 18. We will now consider how to gain our Brother.

#### 3. ADJUST OUR FOCUS

The Pharisees and the Sadducees did not normally get along with one another. They were two different religious groups with two different sets of beliefs. Paul used this fact to his own advantage during his trial in Jerusalem (Acts 23:6-9). The Sadducees did not believe in a resurrection, or angels and spirits. But the Pharisees believed in both of these things. So Paul said, "of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question." Immediately the Pharisees and the Sadducees began arguing with each other, and "the multitude was divided." We find the trial was over for that day!

Here were two groups of people who argued among themselves about differing beliefs. They did not agree and could not experience fellowship with one another. Yet when an outside force which was larger than themselves (Paul) threatened their system, they were able to pool their resources and get along together.

Why not lay down our weapons of bickering and contempt for one another, and join in the fight for claiming lost souls for Jesus Christ? Paul tells us in Ephesians 6 that we are to "be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:10-13) Not everyone will agree on the non-essentials, but at least all will be fighting on the same side. This is certainly far better than constant bickering and criticisms, and is a step in the right direction.

We should remember that in any conflict within the Church, Satan isn't nearly so concerned about who wins as he is about brokenness and disunity and bitter attitudes toward our Brothers and Sisters in the Lord. As long as there are bad feelings, Satan is the winner! So we all need to remember just how cunning our enemy is, and what the real issues are. But how do we learn to get along as true brethren?

#### 4. BE A LOVING SERVANT.

When we honestly feel there is a problem, but can't clearly define



the issues, yet we want to be on the Lord's side, what then? Now we come to the challenging part. Would you be willing to try an experiment?

Jesus told His followers, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (John 13:35) How can we love the Brother or Sister who is seemingly continually manifesting negative attitudes toward us? Christ tells us in Matthew 5:39-42: "But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away." In fact, the entire Sermon on the Mount is filled with advice which would have believers display this kind of attitude and spirit.

We who observe the footwashing ceremony as described in John 13 are displaying that each member is willing to wash any other member's feet -- that is, to take on the role of a servant, to display the attitude of a servant, and to manifest a servant's spirit toward his Brother and Sister. We need to take seriously and literally Christ's commandment to "Love one another." (John 13:34 and 15:12)

Paul continues this thought in Romans 14:13: "Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way." This is not a popular message in a day when we are bombarded on every side with the message, "Stand up for your rights!" The message on humility does not appeal to any part of us human beings. Our minds, wills, and emotions feel repelled by such an idea. The natural part of me would like to emphasize the first part of Romans 14, where Paul teaches that it's not important whether or not we eat meats or keep certain days -- just live unto the Lord. But the natural part of me would also like to forget about the last part of Romans 14, where we are taught to walk charitably with our Brother and not to offend him. In spite of all the arguments we can think of opposing this teaching, the Bible teaching is clear. In fact, Christ tells us of the seriousness of the situation by saying, "Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come: but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!" (Matthew 18:7). Suddenly the tables are turned, and we see that it may be ME that is causing my Brother to stumble! What a message for a heart whose unregenerate condition is that of being proud!

The question remains, "What can I do to manifest a servant's



spirit toward my brother?" This is where the challenge is, and where we can begin experimenting. We must ask God to show us how and where we can display a servant's spirit -- and He will do it! If more than one person is involved, claim the verse in Matthew 18:19 (two agreeing to pray). We will be amazed at how simple and small the things will be -- and will be even more amazed at how this principle works! But do not be in a big hurry to see results right away. God may choose to teach us patience through this experience. So remember Romans 5:3-4 which says, "We glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given us." We see then that through these experiences, we "shed abroad" the love of God, and thus our real goal -- that of spreading the good news about Jesus Christ -- becomes fulfilled!

When my Brother or Sister sees me going the second mile, his heart will tend to soften (sometimes unconsciously) and he will be more open to me as a person. But the largest transformation will take place in my own heart. In exercising a servant's attitude toward my Brother, I'm also proving to myself that I love him -- and one day I find that I really do love him -- with genuine love which is of God. Then the smile I give him will be genuine -- and he will see a new warmth in my attitude toward him. The little things he does toward me will not bother me, because I'm loving him with God's love. It is then that I can feel that I have truly gained my Brother.

As the healing continues, we will then together be able to take up the real battle of winning lost souls for Jesus Christ. We then will truly see a church where Brothers and Sisters in Christ will be living as the psalmist David longed for so many years ago: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Psalms 133:1).

Brother Robert Lehigh

### **"RESPECT AND EXAMPLE"**

Since returning home from Conference many thoughts have passed through my mind. Some have been pleasant ones and some have not.

As I think of our meeting together from year to year, it should be a time of sweet fellowship and for the most part I feel it is. Yet I feel as Christian people we are losing a part of our witness to others. We know that society has failed in the line of respect but do we as believing people need to follow after the world?

Do we respect the rules governing the camp grounds where we

hold our conferences like we should? I fear many times we do not. We are asked to be in our rooms and quiet at a respectable time and there are some who do not respect that rule.

Parents should have their children in bed and quiet at that given hour. I feel this is important to teach our children respect while they are young. If we don't set the example, how can we expect them to show respect, if they don't see it in us?

I couldn't help noticing one evening as I walked out of services for a few minutes, young couples sitting out under the trees with their arms around each other. I also saw deacons, ministers and I heard even elders were outside sitting during the preaching service. I ask is that being a good example to others? I Timothy 4:12. Where is our respect for God's house, and not only for God's house but God's servant as he preaches His Word? Would we like it if our brother and sister sat outside while we preached the Word?

As we think about the conduct of some of our young people at Conference, the sinful things they do and engage in makes me wonder what our Church's future is.

Maybe we as parents are not showing the example at home that we should nor demanding the respect of our children that we should. I think there is no better place for our young people to meet than at our Conference, but if we're going there with the thought of causing trouble and embarrassment, then I feel we ought to stay home because we certainly aren't bringing glory and honor to God. I think our young people can have a wonderful time of fellowship together and in doing that it brings honor and glory to God and shows respect on your part.

As we meet from time to time and year to year let us show our respect for each other and be an example of the believers.

In Christian love,  
Brother Marty Meyers

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

**September 15, 1924**

**THAT OLD BOOK**

**B. E. Kesler**

She was an old lady and her hair was white with the snows of nearly threescore and ten winters. Her health was not good, and it would seem that she should have been thinking of something more important than dress; but when a friend spoke to her of the Bible teaching about plain dress she said: "That old Book! We don't want anything to do with that when it comes to our dressing." This speech was uttered in our town in this year of grace nineteen

hundred and twenty-four.

In the same town were living other women who by their actions said the same thing. Some of these women said the Bible should have nothing to say about their pleasures — they would go where they pleased and do what they pleased: they would gamble if they chose, and they would dance. Why should they consult the Bible about these things?

For the most part they have gotten the ideas from the pulpit, for the preachers say that one thing is not necessary and another is not necessary. And so the "Old Book" has but a small part of the attention and reverence it had years ago. If the commands and advice contained in it were heeded, there would be much less crime and sin in the world. People do not stop to think what the Book contains, what it has meant in the advancement of the race, giving hope where was despair.

That old Book may be neglected, may be made fun of and scoffed at; but that does not affect the Book. It is more solid than the world, and will outlast the world. And it will be just as solid when the scoffers are swept up like the chaff which is to be burned. Nor is that all: it will be the law by which all men shall be judged in the final day. It reveals the Christ, the one before whom every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that he is Lord, to glory of God the Father.

"That Old Book" was given to man as a guide through this world. Many attempts have been made by ungodly men to destroy it. In the olden time one of the kings cut it to pieces and burned it; but he did not get rid of it in that way. The Book was still his judge, and it condemned him. So shall it ever be. It is given us as a light to our path, and if we heed it we shall not walk in darkness.

In my mother's last sickness she asked me to get the Book and read to her; and after I had read in it for a while she said: "That is the best of all." Many of us thank God, have had mothers like that, who lived by the Book, and when the time came they were not afraid to die by it, but looked bravely across the river, not heeding the dark valley of the shadow of death, for their eyes were fixed on One on the other side. "That Old Book" was their greatest treasure in life.

We do not believe that the dancing, cardplaying, society women of this day are making better wives or mothers, nor are they training up their children to be as good citizens. The leaving of the Bible out of so much of present-day life is one of the greatest causes why we have so much crime. Disrespect for the laws of God cannot inspire respect for the laws of man. It is in God's law that we have the foundation of right laws. There never has been



another book like it, and there never will be: it stands alone.

It is an old Book; yes. But it is more than that: it is God's book. It says, "Thou shalt", and it says, "Thou shalt not." When men's laws are disobeyed for a long time and almost universally, they are often repealed. But that is not the case with God's laws. His own people tried disobeying them, and we have a record of some of their sufferings due to their disobedience. Not a prophecy or promise of it has ever failed when the time for fulfilling came. And there are some wonderful things foretold in the Book whose time has not yet come. Among them is the judgment. It will be well for us to study the Book and learn what it has to say about the great day of God Almighty. We do not know when the judgment time will come, but it will be here right on time when God's hour strikes.

As you love your souls, do not scoff at the Book; as you hope for peace in the world to come, do not neglect to obey the commandments of the Lord. It has to do with every activity of life. It is a mistake to think that you can leave it out of any part of your life; you may think you are leaving it out, but in reality you are only laying up for yourself sorrow in the great day of the Lord's final judgment. You cannot afford to do that. Call it the old Book if you will, but not with disrespect. Reverence it, obey all its teachings, lay hold of all its promises, and so be prepared when your time comes to meet your Lord with joy and not with sorrow. Life is short, eternity is long; what we do in this short life decides our destiny for that life which shall never end. God help us to obey it in all that we do as we journey through this world.

### **WHAT SHALL A MAN GIVE IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS SOUL?**

In Matthew 16:26, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" When Jesus came to His disciples saying, "Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?" some said He was John the Baptist; some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. Then He asked the disciples, "Whom do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Simon Peter must have been a blessing to Christ. If we were to ask many today in our schools, "What do you think," would they know anything about the Christ who gave His life to save their soul? I wonder if you would ask a High School class what the central theme of the Gospel was, would they be able to say the story of Jesus?

The words are like seeds which when dropped and faith and water are added then we have a living thing. Many a time, things

were said, Peter did not want to hear, because he surely loved the Lord. If someone was going to take our Master away we would want to protect Him. His Master was going to be killed. Jesus said if any man come after me he must deny himself. So many preachers do not say this today, but Jesus told His disciples that was the first thing they must do — deny self and then come and be my disciple.

Jesus tells us to take up the cross and follow Him. This would mean alot to some people, but in the end it is worth it. Jesus had to carry His own cross on the way to be crucified. If our load becomes heavy with the cross we must bear, Jesus is always by our side to give us help. We are not alone.

If we bear this cross as we journey along the way, we will receive a crown in the end. When this life is no more, Christ will take us home to glory. So many of the Apostles lost their lives for the cause of Christ. If any of us could live to be ninety years old and feel like the Apostle Paul, when he was near the end and be able to say, I have fought a good fight and kept the faith and I am now ready to go. Oh, what would it be like to have gained all of this world and money and then lose our home in Heaven?

Do we consider the value of our own soul? In the business world of today we have to watch that we don't go bankrupt, but that is not as important as watching what condition our soul is in. So often we get wrapped up in this world's affairs so we forget about our soul.

When we have an opportunity to do good and help our fallen Brother or Sister and we fail to do this, we have to answer to our dear Lord. So many of us have failed because we feel that next time we can help. Do we all have a second chance to help? Now is the time, this moment, this day. What we do for Christ will last.

When we sell a piece of land we want to get the best price. When we come to the price of our soul are we willing to give it away free, like Esau? Be careful it will cost us dearly. So many today say they don't have to give their life to Christ as they are living a good life. The faithful few will receive a great reward. Will we all be in that number? I pray we will.

Sister E. M. Alltus



### WESLEY'S TWO TEXTS

Wesley was once preaching to a congregation of the honored of the realm, and used the "generation of vipers" text. A nobleman afterward said to Wesley: "That text should have been preached at the prison." "No," replied Wesley, my text there would have been, 'Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.'"

## MARRIAGE

### JAMISON-KELLER

Marcie Jamison, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Dale Jamison of Quinter, Kansas, and Mike Keller, son of Bro. and Sis. Titus Keller of Manheim, Pennsylvania, were married in an outdoor ceremony the morning of August 4, 1984. The wedding was held near Quinter at the home of Rex Reinecker, brother-in-law of the bride. Bro. Gordon Jamison gave the opening prayer and Elder Dale Jamison officiated.

Mike and Marcie are living at Rt. 8, Box 55, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

May God bless this happy couple with many wonderful years together!

## OBITUARIES

### EMMA WISE

Sis. Emma K. Wise, widow of the late Bro. Noah W. Wise, passed away at the Lancaster Osteopathic Hospital, June 6, 1984 at the age of 86. She was a resident of the Mount Hope Dunkard Brethren Home, Manheim, Pennsylvania the last six years.

She was born June 19, 1897, the daughter of the late Benjamin and Ella (Kreider) Bollinger. She joined the Middle Creek Church of the Brethren in February 1913. She united with the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church in January 1934, where she was a faithful member.

Surviving are a son, Arthur B. Wise, East Earl, Pennsylvania; four daughters, Esther, wife of David B. Johns, Paradise, Pennsylvania, Ellen, wife of Laverne Keeney, Lititz, Pennsylvania, Sarah, wife of Lester Marks, Mountville, Pennsylvania, and Miriam, wife of Jack Snyder, Stevens, Pennsylvania; nineteen grandchildren and twenty-six great-grandchildren. Two sisters, Mrs. Anna Horst, Ephrata, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Mary Butzer, Akron, Pennsylvania; three brothers, Edward Bollinger, Neffsville, Pennsylvania, Alvin Bollinger, Lititz, Pennsylvania, and Ira Bollinger, Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

Funeral services were held at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church, June 9, 1984, by Elder James Kegerreis, assisted by Elder Allen Eberly. Burial in the Middle Creek Brethren Cemetery, Lititz, Pennsylvania.

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to relatives, neighbors and friends for cards, prayers, visits and many acts of kindness to Mother at Mount Hope Home and to us in our bereavement at Mother's passing.

The Family of Emma Wise



**LEONARD REED**

Brother Leonard Clarence Reed, 81, died at 10:35 A.M. Saturday, August 18, 1984, in his home in Carthage, Illinois.

Brother Leonard was born October 9, 1902, in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. He was the son of Creed T. and Martha (Howell) Reed.

He joined the Dunkard Brethren Church, September 28, 1924, attending mostly at Astoria, Illinois.

He married Belle Kern in Carthage, February 23, 1924. She survives.

Brother Leonard was a farmer in this vicinity.

Also surviving are three brothers, Johnson, William and Floyd, also nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers.

Funeral services were held at the Neiser Funeral Home in Carthage, August 21, with Elder Ray Reed in charge assisted by Elder William Carpenter. Internment in Moss Ridge Cemetery in Carthage.

We do not lose the ones we love —  
They only go before  
Where there is everlasting life  
Where sorrow is no more.  
And there the soul will always live,  
And peace is everywhere.  
We do not lose the ones we love —  
God takes them in His care.

**NEWS ITEMS****MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGES**

The new address of Elder Eugene Kauffman is R. 3, Box 51, Harrisonburg, Virginia, 22801. The telephone number is the same.

Add to the Ministerial List the name of Bro. Michael Wray (M), 31111 Combs Ave., Escalon, California 95320. The telephone number is 209/838-2760.

Elder H. Edward Johnson phone number change (419) 337-0251.

**QUINTER, KANSAS**

The Quinter Congregation extends an invitation to all who can to attend our revival meetings, September 23 through 30.

Elder Robert Carpenter of Plevna, Indiana will bring the messages to us.

Please remember us in prayer.

Sister Julie Litfin, Cor.

**PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO**

We, the Pleasant Ridge Congregation plan, the Lord willing, to hold our Lovefeast Services, October 6 and 7.

Services will be held at 11 o'clock Saturday, October 6, continuing at two o'clock in the afternoon and the Lovefeast being Saturday evening. Services will be held on Sunday also.

We welcome all to come enjoy these services with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhan, Cor.

**WEST FULTON, OHIO**

The Lord willing, the West Fulton Congregation plans a revival meeting starting Friday, October 12, closing with the Harvest Meeting Sunday, October 21. Bro. Virgil Leatherman will be our evangelist. Come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Carolyn Carpenter, Cor.

**DAYTON, VIRGINIA**

The Dayton Congregation plans, the Lord willing, to hold a revival meeting, October 14 through 21, 1984. Elder Harley Flory of Defiance, Ohio will be the evangelist.

The Lovefeast Service will be held the evening of October 20.

A welcome is extended for all to come and enjoy these services with us.

Brother Eugene Kauffman

**WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA**

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation plans a Fall Lovefeast, October 12. All are welcome. Come and enjoy this service with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

**THANK YOU**

I want to take this privilege to thank all the Brethren and Sisters and friends for your prayers, cards, gifts, visits and concern while I was in the hospital and at home. May the good Lord bless all of you and keep us all faithful until He comes.

Brother George Longenecker, Sr.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR OCTOBER 1984

### ON THE EARTH

Memory Verse: Isaiah 58:14 "Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Mon. 1 - Isaiah 58:1-14  
 Tues. 2 - Isaiah 60:1-22  
 Wed. 3 - Isaiah 61:1-11  
 Thurs. 4 - Isaiah 62:1-12  
 Fri. 5 - Isaiah 63:1-19  
 Sat. 6 - Isaiah 65:1-16

Memory Verse: Isaiah 61:11, "For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations."

Sun. 7 - Isaiah 65:17-25  
 Mon. 8 - Isaiah 66:1-14  
 Tues. 9 - Isaiah 66:1-24  
 Wed. 10 - Jeremiah 4:1-31  
 Thurs. 11 - Jeremiah 6:1-30  
 Fri. 12 - Jeremiah 7:21-34  
 Sat. 13 - Jeremiah 8:1-22

Memory Verse: Isaiah 65:17, "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind."

Sun. 14 - Jeremiah 9:1-26  
 Mon. 15 - Jeremiah 10:1-25  
 Tues. 16 - Jeremiah 14:1-22  
 Wed. 17 - Jeremiah 15:1-21  
 Thurs. 18 - Jeremiah 16:1-21  
 Fri. 19 - Jeremiah 17:1-18  
 Sat. 20 - Jeremiah 19:1-15

Memory Verse: Jeremiah 10:11-12, "Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion."

Sun. 21 - Jeremiah 22:1-30  
 Mon. 22 - Jeremiah 23:1-24  
 Tues. 23 - Jeremiah 24:1-10  
 Wed. 24 - Jeremiah 25:1-28  
 Thurs. 25 - Jeremiah 27:1-22  
 Fri. 26 - Jeremiah 28:1-17  
 Sat. 27 - Jeremiah 29:1-19

Memory Verse: Jeremiah 17:13, "O Lord, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living waters.

Sun. 28 - Jeremiah 31:1-14  
 Mon. 29 - Jeremiah 33:1-26  
 Tues. 30 - Jeremiah 34:1-22  
 Wed. 31 - Jeremiah 50:17-45



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

OCTOBER 1, 1984

NO. 19

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WHOM HAVE WE, LORD

Whom have we, Lord in heav'n, but thee,  
And whom on earth beside?  
Where else for succor can we flee,  
Or in whose strength confide?

Thou art our portion here below,  
Our promised bliss above;  
Ne'er may our souls an object know  
So precious as thy love.

When heart and flesh, O Lord, shall fail,  
Thou wilt our spirits cheer,  
Support us thro' life's thorny vale,  
And calm each anxious fear.

Yes, thou shalt be our guide thro' life,  
And help and strength supply;  
Sustain us in death's fearful strife,  
And welcome us on high.

## THE GOOD LUCK CHARM

Even in this supposedly advanced and educated age, many people still rely on luck. Millions of dollars are wasted on gambling. Others who would disdain gambling and gaming, still are servants to luck. They have good luck charms and have many superstitions concerning black cats, ladders and certain days. Even professing Christians are amongst those who have a reliance on luck and superstition.

In the Bible some of the Jews relied more on a good luck charm than on God. When Eli was elderly, sickly and nearly blind, his sons were out of control. They pursued an unholy course although they were their father's helpers in the priesthood. As the leadership of the land failed so the people became evil and idolatrous. They were slack in their worship and service towards God. When the Philistines arose as God's means of punishment, the Jews could not resist them. As the battle continued to go against them, they decided they needed a good luck charm. They had Eli's sons brought from Shiloh and with them went the ark. They thought surely this would change their luck in the battle. The ark and priests were not brought because they had a renewed desire to worship and serve God. The ark was brought to be a good luck charm. But it could not deliver them although it did bolster their confidence for a brief time. The ark could not save them because it was only a "lucky piece." It was not the center of their worship. They were not obedient to the God whom the ark represented. The battle was lost, many were killed including Eli's sons and worst of all the ark was taken by the Philistines. Their good luck charm failed them because they relied upon luck rather than faith and obedience.

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

OCTOBER 1, 1984

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Many today rely upon good luck represented by various religious symbolic items which have become "lucky pieces." These luck items include crosses, handkerchiefs, or even the Bible itself. These things have meaning only as good luck charms and have lost their meaning concerning God's desired use of these things. These sentimental relics have become charms to use in troubled times to bring good luck. Prayer and obedience have been shunted aside as ineffective. There is little interest in what God's Will is, only in what good luck can be had.

Luck is a desire for all things good and for nothing that would be uncomfortable. Human minds do not see the need for the disciplining effects of adversity. So the wish is for all pleasant things. Having all pleasant things may not be God's Will, so to wish for luck would be going against His Will.

James admonishes believers when laying future plans whether long or short term, to say, "If the Lord wills." Our desires may not always be as He would will. Our idea of gain may not be the same as His as we are liable to count gain in worldly, material terms while He counts gain in eternal, spiritual terms.

Many are drawn into gambling with the idea of winning at least a little and usually alot more. But for every well-publicized winner there are multitudes of losers. The jackpot is accumulated through the donations of each one who covets to have the whole thing. Gambling has many things against it. It would be sufficiently condemned if by no other than this: Thou shalt not covet. Gambling is coveting. There is always the thought that the little put in will produce a great jackpot. Not only is this the admonition of the old law but even more so in the New Testament. How many, who can hardly afford the necessities of life, will gamble away even what they do have? Luck has robbed many of even the meanest of pleasures and has brought instead poverty, arguments and laziness. For many luck not only robs them of ambition to do work for a living rather than throw away their meager means on gambling but it robs them of future ambition for they foresee the time when they will hit the jackpot and not have to labor. God's plan has always been for man to have work to do.

Christians need to beware of the allurements of "Lady Luck." It is so easy to be allured by the promise of quick and easy money. It is appealing to acquire the pleasant things of this life without a great deal of labor. It is easy to allow even symbols connected with Christianity to become good luck charms — giving them a value that God did not intend.

Christians, as the children of God, need to listen to their Heavenly



Father knowing He will never leave nor forsake them. Therefore, they do not need luck. They need faith.

Is it luck or faith that rules your life?

## UNTIL IT'S GONE

"You never miss the water till the well runs dry." You've no doubt heard this or a similar statement many times. It is so very true and shows our human side. We don't miss water until we don't have it. In other words, we don't really appreciate it while we do have it. Neither do we consider what life would be without a good supply. We simply assume it will always be there.

People don't value what they have until it's gone. Then it is too late. It may be their health which they fail to appreciate, or it may be their home and family which they take for granted. Whatever it is, quite often when the thing of value is gone, it can't be brought back. In our careless, carefree attitude, we ruined what was most important, and no matter how sorry we are, we can't undo the damage done.

Esau didn't miss his birthright until the blessing was gone also. In Gen. 25:29-34, we are given the story of Esau selling his birthright. He probably didn't think anymore about it until the blessing was gone. After Jacob had cheated Esau out of this blessing, Esau blamed Jacob for it all. See Gen. 27:36. The fact was Esau didn't value his birthright and sold it with little thought. Blaming Jacob didn't help Esau and it didn't solve the problem. His plot to murder Jacob didn't solve anything either.

It never helps to blame someone else, especially when we are at fault. King Saul found that out when he blamed the people for his own disobedience. He tried to justify himself until faced with the consequences — the loss of his throne. Saul didn't miss God's blessing until it was gone. When we refuse to face the facts as he did, we only make the problem worse. We are responsible for our own lives and for the choices we make, and if we expect to be blessed, we must face up to the responsibility. See 1 Sam. 15.

In the parable of the rich and very foolish man (Luke 12:16-21), it is obvious that he made a bad choice. He put all of his energy into his possessions and left God out of his life, thus ignoring the opportunity to get right with God. Now that it was gone, it was too late because death was at the door. He couldn't bring the opportunity back and even though he wasn't ready to face the reality of Eternity, he had to. So it will be with us, if we don't make use of our opportunity to get right with God today.

In our relationships with people, we often take things for granted.

We don't appreciate our friends and family as we should, and our ungrateful attitude can destroy these relationships. Love and friendship, when trampled on, will die. It will be like a well which has gone dry, and there will be no one to blame it on but ourselves. We can weep and cry and say how sorry we are, but being sorry won't bring it back. A trust has been destroyed and it takes time to rebuild it, if it can be done. The time to appreciate something is while it is here, not after it's gone.

A drug addict no longer has a choice — he must use drugs to function. He did not appreciate his freedom until it was gone and he was addicted. The only route to freedom from this craving is to go through a painful withdrawal. An alcoholic faces a similar situation. Both have become slaves to the drug their bodies crave. Neither made a responsible choice, and are paying a high price for his foolishness.

As you think of these things, you can easily see that trouble comes when one gets careless. Trouble comes especially when God is left out. The time to appreciate friends and family is now. The time to let God have His way in your life is now. If you wait, it may be too late. "When he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears." (Heb. 12:17) For Esau it was too late, and so it will be for us if we wait until our opportunities are gone.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"Promises"**

In any major election year, politicians make extravagant promises. We hear them again in 1984! Better housing is in the forecast. With the help of proper laws, we are informed that we will have an adequate place to live, we will have energy sufficient for heating and lighting and we will have all the "things" necessary to make life and the pursuit of happiness worth-while. For the hungry nations and for the poor here at home, plans are devised to distribute food and increase unemployment compensation. Health insurance is a glowingly pictured way to increase a life span. Increased old age pensions are promised to remove any cause for sorrow or pain among the aged. Promises, promises!

John was able by revelation to show us some flashes of the future. We see in his writings benefits far better than those the politicians of today eagerly promise. God's fulfillment is glorious beyond any of our fondest dreams. There will be no need for the sun for heat or light. There will be no night there as God Himself will be

the light. Food will no longer be a problem as spiritual bodies will feel no hunger or thirst. The great search for ways to increase man's life span will cease, since death will be no more and the redeemed will have free access to the water of life. ALL the problems which are being discussed during these elections are going to be solved permanently God's way.

Many, if not most of the promises we are hearing today are only empty words. But God's promises are sure. No government today is perfect and no nation today is looking completely to God for guidance the way it should. Yet God guides the destinies of nations and He is orchestrating the happenings of this time from heaven, that His will might be done.

For many years, God ruled His people directly, speaking to them through Moses and the Judges. But the people murmured against them and asked for a king. Even though this was not pleasing to God, He permitted them to have a king. When a bad king took power, everything went against the people. When the king was good and looked to God, everything was fine. The righteousness of the nation came and went, depending upon their government. Our real government is the Kingdom of Christ. Our leader is the Lord Himself. As long as we are obedient to Him and carry His banner high, we will be sufficiently cared for, even in the face of a decaying society.

We praise God for the freedoms we experienced in this country but we can never be totally free until we understand our position in Christ. The freedom that He gives us is hard to understand in the worldly sense. Paul teaches us that "Against such there is no law." There is no limit on the practice of Christian virtues. We have the opportunity to do noble things... to live a life of service and love, to give our best to Jesus and to help those around about us. May we concentrate upon these objectives as the "elect" of the everlasting Kingdom.

Brother Leonard Wertz



### LIGHT AND HEAVY WHEAT

A farmer went with his son into the wheat field to see if the grain was ripe for the harvest. The boy exclaimed: "See, father, how straight these stems hold up their heads; they must be the best ones. Those that hang their heads down cannot be good for much." The farmer plucked a stalk of each kind and said: "See here, foolish child; this stalk that stood so straight is light-headed and almost good for nothing, while this one that hung its head so modestly is full of the most beautiful grain."



## THERE WERE TWELVE

The number twelve holds much significance in both the Old and the New Testament of the Bible. The twelve sons of Jacob. Jesus chose twelve men to assist Him in His earthly ministry. Twelve apostles initiated the early Christian Church. Many people do not realize that twelve women played important roles in the events surrounding Christ's death and resurrection. They came from all walks of life. We also find there are the books of History in the Old Testament which are twelve. We also find the Minor Prophets also are twelve in number.

Some writers say that the twelve women, one was a governor's wife, three were social workers, two maids, a woman who had been freed from evil spirits, three mothers, an aunt and a friend. On the stage of that crucial period, these women were found in different places; on a porch, in a garden, in an office, by a fire, in an earthquake, at the cross, in a cemetery, at a door, in a leper's house, in a crowd, in a palace, in the city. Some watched, wept, anointed, prepared, purchased.

If Joanna, Salome and Susanna lived today, we would call them community workers. They cared alot about Jesus and His needs. The final trip to Jerusalem demonstrated their willingness to be called His disciples. The Governor's wife could not stand by and see injustice done. She boldly advised her husband, Pilate, to release an innocent man.

Through grief and despair, Jesus' Aunt and His Mother stood faithfully by Him as He hung on the cross. He understood the strength of the family ties when they remained to witness His death. His mother's love was rewarded when a place was ensured for her in the household of His dear friend. Two women were grateful that Jesus restored their reputation. No gift could be too costly for a friend like that. Many who were helped by Jesus felt the same. Mary Magdalene had been an outcast from society because of the evil spirits that had possessed her. When Jesus freed her, she was able to resume her place among her friends and relatives. She knew that a stone and soldiers were placed at the entrance to the place where Jesus was buried. She was determined to embalm His body. Two other Mary joined her at the tomb the morning of the resurrection, but they were sent to relay a message to the Disciples.

Christ fulfilled the purpose for which He was sent. The example set by the twelve women ranks high among Bible scholars today.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## MONEY CAN'T BUY

I'll write a few things  
That money can't buy...  
The air that we breathe;  
A soul that won't die.

The Great Love of God —  
And of His Own Son  
Who died on Calv'ry  
To redeem each one.

The Word He left us,  
Peace He gives within,  
His Spirit to lead  
Us away from sin.

We've a mind to think,  
And eyes that can see,  
Ears for our hearing...  
Two hands and two feet.

We have our taste buds  
And an appetite,  
And when we get tired  
We sleep day or night.

There's friends and neighbors  
And our families...  
Then too — we can worship  
Whenever we please.

Money can't buy health —  
Of this we do know...  
When things are planted  
We can't make them grow.

We've water to drink  
In a great supply...  
For fruits of the trees  
On God we rely.

His beautiful flowers  
Around us do grow  
Because He gave rain  
And also the snow.

Now I've touched a part  
Of the things that are free —  
There's so many more —  
Like the shade of a tree.

The sun and the moon  
And stars you can't count,  
Our blessings add up  
To a huge amount.

- Irene Stout

## CHRISTIAN

Ephesians 4:1-3, "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

We find the word "Christian" only three times in the Bible. It is believed that this name did not originate among the group of believers themselves but rather from outsiders. Certainly this is a special word bestowed upon a special people. It was probably used with contempt by some who wanted to identify those odd people who were following the Christ. Undoubtedly it was used by many in love and kindness.

This name has carried down through the ages and is widely used today. I believe it covers a much broader area of people than those who are Christ like or true followers of Jesus.

A Greek soldier was brought to Alexander the Great because he was remiss in his duties. Alexander asked him his name and he proudly answered, "My name is Alexander." At this the great general replied, "Soldier, do your duties or change your name!"

We are wearing the name Christian. Are you worthy of that name? Am I worthy of that name? It seems that some like to wear the name like an outer garment and change it occasionally, or remove it at will.

As the great general did not want a poor soldier to wear his name, Christ does not want a careless or negligent individual to wear His.

Let's be worthy of the name Christian!

Brother Roger Swihart  
Quinter, Kansas 67752



The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all men, charity. —

— Balfour



## THE EXECUTION

Psalms 22:10, "I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly."

The date is set to seal his doom.

The time, the place, and the room.

Which type of death is deemed the best?

Is one more appropriate than the rest?

The victim to be lies so peaceful. What a shame —

to die so young. Known by number, not by name.

But surely he deserves to die, so says the law.

He has no say in the matter, not one last call.

No lawyer is given to hear or plead his case.

He is among the most despised of the human race.

Guilty! Guilty! As decreed by the highest judges in the land.

Fit to be torn apart — his feet, his legs, his hand.

Or perhaps he should be burnt alive, scalded until dead.

More mercy to be shown? Cut off his head!

No type of death is too terrible for one such as he.

Compassion, caring love? These things are not to be.

Who is this despised one, hated with a vengeance so?

A killer, rapist, despot king? The answer is, no.

He is a babe, unwanted, conceived "out of his time."

Abortion is his fate. Execution without guilt or crime!

If this poem appears to be too gruesome to you, we believe an actual abortion is more so!

James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

October 1, 1924

"HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE"

John L. Johnson

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by them that heard him." Hebrews 2:3.

In the Old Testament, we find that Adam and Eve disregarded God's instructions and sin fell upon all the human race. Moses disregarded God's instructions when told to speak to the rock; instead of speaking to the rock, he smote it as he had successfully done once before, but in his disobedience to the command

of God he was permitted to look over into the promised land of Canaan but was not permitted to go to enjoy living in it. King Saul, because of neglecting to heed God's command to utterly destroy the Amalekites and all that they had and spare them NOT, (I Samuel 15:3) he lost his kingship. David was not permitted to build the temple, because he was a man of blood. (I Chron. 28:3).

These, with many other cases, are on record to show us that there always has been penalties attached to disobedience to God's commands.

**HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE?** Christ (the Son of God) has in the New Testament given us a plan of redemption from the "Adamic sin", through the death of His Son and commandments formulated and demanded to be obeyed in the church which He has established (the Church of Christ) and if we neglect to obey them we will have to suffer the penalties as well as all former people have (or will have) to suffer.

"He that exalteth himself shall be abased." (A Church or congregation) will meet with the same condemnation. Many leaders of the (so-called) Christian churches, are going about with their heads high, their manner, as well as their teaching, plainly indicating that they are away beyond our fore-fathers in their knowledge in knowing how to conduct the affairs of Christ's church. Costly and elegant church houses, of fine architecture, (many with heavy debt upon them), musical instruments, gayly bedecked choirs displayed before their audiences, formality in services along the lines of all popular churches, together with banquets, socials for mirth and pleasure, and what not, to get the attention of the public. **HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE?**

God despises even a proud look. He is the father of humility and humbleness and has promised to exalt those that so conduct themselves. Pride is an abomination in the sight of GOD. He even goes further by saying, "That which is highly esteemed among MEN is an abomination in the sight of God." **HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE?**

Christ has demanded that His people (His Church) shall come out from among the world and **BE A SEPARATE PEOPLE**, then He will bless them. How can we do this? By being born of the Spirit of Christ, (not of the nature of the world). If of the Spirit, we will do as the Spirit demands but if of the world, we will do as the world demands, and the world's demands are the foremost thought (it seems) of the present day church behavior. This exalted idea has gotten many church members, church congregations and districts into heavy debt and caused a shortage in finances to meet over estimated Mission demands and submerged

the care of the poor, Old Folks Homes and so forth. **HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE?**

We, the supporters of "The Bible Monitor" are making a strong effort to reverse these late modern thought innovations in our church and if possible revert to the plain teachings of Christ, for the operation of the body of His people, in which we have His NEVER FAILING promise that He some day will come to call as His bride, but we must be without spot or blemish, or any such thing before we can expect him to receive us up to glory. The penalties have always been meted out to the disobedient. **HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE?**

What kind of persons did Christ select to be His leaders and witnesses? Where can we look for church leaders that will measure up to His requirements? Surely not those that are working so hard to make worldly institutions out of Christ's humble churches and members. Let us first seek the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness, then we will not spend money and time trying to "build castles in the air" many of which already have the sentence passed upon them, such as exaltation, pride, and self righteousness, "I am better than thou", and the many other propensities of the unconverted church member or worldling.

"If the righteous scarcely be saved where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" The righteous surely is the person who diligently tries to serve God, and follow Christ, in their never ending effort to save us from the eternal death. The ungodly no doubt are those who profess to be Christ's followers, but are letting the world dictate to them how to do it. Which is "the devil's gospel." The sinner is one that has but little use for Christ or His plan of salvation. Which class am I or YOU in? **HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE?**

Dear Brethren and Sisters, it does seem to me that if we ever expect to enjoy the heavenly mansions, we will first have to overcome our desires to be worldly fashioned and use all the God given talents that He has blessed us with to overcome the world in its mad rush for pleasures, pomp, display and selfishness. Where can we find faithful helpers who are willing to turn from the crowd that are on the broad and condemned road and are willing to sacrifice their lives to humbly follow Jesus?

"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in THY name? and in THY name have cast out devils? and in THY name done MANY WONDERFUL WORKS?" (Matt. 7:23) "And then will I profess unto them, I NEVER knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matt. 7:23).

**HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE?** "Think on these things." (Phil. 4:8). May the Lord direct our thinking.



## **SATURDAY, THE JEWISH SABBATH, OR SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY, WHICH?**

William Root

The writer has been requested to give to the readers of the Bible Monitor the teaching, in God's Word, on the above subject. First: We are told that the seventh day Sabbath was given to Adam. Gen. 2:1-2, "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made." This Scripture does not say a single word about giving anything. Adam is not named; it only tells what God did.

The Seventh-day Baptists, of whom, we are sorry to say, a small group of our beloved fraternity, the Dunkers, were erroneously carried away with the Sabbath doctrine, early in the eighteenth century, under the head of the "Eparata Society", the Adventists and Sabbatarians of all types pretend that the keeping of the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday, is an invention of the Roman Catholic church and that Protestants cannot prove its observance through the Bible, but only through the written or unwritten tradition of the corrupt church of Rome. Our answer to this is — We say that Sunday, under other names, namely the first day of the week, or the Lord's day, mentioned in the New Testament, was kept and hallowed in the time of the Apostles.

Again we are told that the Sabbath was made for man. Mark 2:27-28, "And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath." Sabbath was made for what man? For all (man) men? Verily, no. The following Scriptures will tell us who the Sabbath was made for, What men. Deut. 5:24. "And ye said, Behold, the Lord our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth." Note those words, "We have seen this day that God did talk with man." Also Psa. 78:25, "Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full." Herein is described the man for whom the Sabbath was made, Israel, "all Israel."

Sabbatarians are endeavoring to prove that the change from Saturday to Sunday was a heathen institution, dating from the days of the Emperor Constantine, about A.D. 320. However, we can safely challenge those who affirm that Sunday was a chief holy day of paganism, to advance a single passage from either a heathen or a Roman author which speaks of a weekly holiday in honor of the Sun. The Romans had an annual holiday in honor of the Sun, but not a weekly one. It always fell on December 25, which now

commemorates what the world calls Christmas, or the nativity of Christ.

(Before we go further in the study of this subject, in support of our above statement concerning the historical facts of our beloved church, we quote the following taken from Secular History): By George P. Fisher's History, on page 565, and we quote "The Mennonites were early established in Pennsylvania. THERE, ALSO, the Dunkers, a small part of whom became 'Seventh-day' Baptists... called in England, Sabbatarians... were planted in 1719." (End quote.) (This is also established by our own Church Histories. We give this in passing.)

We are told again, that, "The seventh day was embodied in the moral law, and kept by the patriarchs and prophets for thousands of years." We ask — Where is the proof of the Sabbath previous to Exodus 16:29? The word Sabbath does not occur in the Bible until 2500 years after the creation. No allusion to its observance or violation.

Christians made so by the teaching of the New Testament, who are the true followers of Christ, base the keeping of Sunday on the resurrection of Jesus Christ who rose from the dead on the first day of the Jewish week. We note: that the four evangelists point out very exactly the day of the Lord's resurrection; a thing which does not occur in many important events of the life of our Saviour, namely his birth, baptism, transfiguration and so forth, the Holy Spirit thus making the day precious and memorable to the followers of the crucified Jesus. No doubt this is the reason that the primitive church held her religious meetings on that day and that the Christians of subsequent ages have followed the apostolic example.

In Acts 20:7, we are told that Paul remained seven days in Troas and that on the first day of the week the disciples came together to break bread. Paul also in his first letter to Corinth wrote, I Cor. 16:2, "Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." Although these words do not directly say that public services, as we understand them, were held on Sunday, yet they seem to indicate that the first day of the week was already a holy day (being the resurrection day), and that deeds of charity were considered as particularly expedient on that day. Heb. 10:25 shows that the early Christians at the time the epistle was written had already special meeting days, and the above mentioned passages show that the keeping of the Sunday commenced in the time of the apostles.

Sabbatarians must not forget that Paul absolutely rejected the Sabbath day with circumcision. "Ye observe days, and months,

and times, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain." Gal. 4:10-11. Also Gal. 5:2-4, "Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is debtor to do the whole law. Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." "For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love." verses 5 and 6. Col. 2:16-17, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holy day, of the new moon or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ."

To be continued

Selected by Joseph Lavy

## NEWS ITEMS

### MINISTERIAL LIST CORRECTIONS

The correct address and telephone number of Bro. Rudy Shaffer is R. 2 Box 8, Cuba, New Mexico 87013. The telephone number is 505-731-2292, which is also the number for Bro. David Skiles and the Torreon Navajo Mission.

#### PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Indiana Congregation plans to hold a two week Revival beginning October 28 through November 11. Elder Eugene Kauffman from Harrisonburg, Virginia will be our Evangelist.

Services begin nightly at 7:30 p.m. with services Saturday, November 10 in the forenoon, afternoon and the Lovefeast that night.

We invite you to these Revival efforts. If you can't come, please pray that much good might be accomplished.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

#### LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing the Lititz Congregation is planning a two-week revival starting November 5 through 18.

Bro. Leonard Wertz has promised to be with us. May we all pray for Bro. Leonard and these meetings.

Come and worship with us.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

#### THANKS

I wish to thank everyone for the cards, prayers and words of encouragement during my illness.

May the Lord richly bless each of you.

Brother Pete Lorenz



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

OCTOBER 15, 1984

NO. 20

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

---

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

---

## HOW VAIN ARE ALL THINGS HERE BELOW

How vain are all things here below,  
How false, and yet how fair!  
Each pleasure has its poison, too,  
And ev'ry sweet a snare.

The brightest things below the sky  
Give but a flatt'ring light;  
We should suspect some danger nigh  
Where we possess delight.

Our dearest joys and nearest friends,  
The partners of our blood,  
How they divide our wav'ring minds,  
And leave but half for God!

The fondness of a creature's love,  
How strong it strikes the sense!  
Thither the warm affections move,  
Nor can we call them thence.

Dear Savior! let thy beauties be  
My soul's eternal food;  
And grace command my heart away  
From all created good.

Isaac Watts

## VANITY

Solomon was a very wise man. He showed his natural wisdom by asking for wisdom from God, instead of riches, revenge or rejuvenation. From this wise viewpoint he looked at the philosophies and activities of men and concluded, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity." He repeated this phrase several times in the Book of Ecclesiastes.

That which is useless, unwise or false is vain. When men are conceited they are said to be vain. A conceited opinion of oneself is vain for the good things one assumes about himself are untrue. Vain things are mostly hot air. There is no real substance to back up the exaggerated claims. The vain is useless for it does not live up to its promise or potential.

Solomon's search of the philosophies of men proved them all to be vain. Epicurism, the pursuit of pleasure was found vain, for pleasure can never fulfill the deeper needs of the human soul. Fatalism, the bleak and pessimistic view of life, is found faulty. God has put man here for a purpose. When men fulfill that purpose, it can not be said to be in vain. The love of money is also found wanting. The value of money can easily erode away. Money may be pursued and treasured away but there is no guarantee of who will enjoy it after the collector has passed from the scene. Money may be useful in many ways but it can not buy salvation or happiness, nor can it buy even a second more of life. A life of retirement and sloth is also found lacking for men were created to be busy.

The wise man could look at all the philosophies and find them lacking. These same beliefs and activities are still present in today's world. Pleasure, wealth, laziness and even fatalism are all a part of the world's system today. Time, money, effort and even

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dishonest activity are expended in these false pursuits. The wise man could see through these disguised allurements of Satan although like us he was at times tempted by them. In the end, wisdom prevailed. He found the most important thing was that men would learn to fear God and keep His commandments. Here was the basis of eternal life. This was not vain but practical and uplifting.

Vanity is illustrated by that piece of furniture found in the bedroom or bathroom of that same name. It is fitting to be so named. For there is nothing more vain or self-defeating than the habit of using cosmetics to change the God-given features of our faces and bodies. God has formed each one with his or her own distinctive features. These features do not need to be altered by make-up or otherwise to conform to the fast changing fashions and fads of the world. Instead of accomplishing the change desired, often damage is done to the skin or face. Rightly that table is called a vanity for it is vain to beautify the outside when the inner-person is lacking beauty of character. Beauty in God's eyes is not that of appearance but that which is that inner true character. God looks on the heart, not the artificially produced by cosmetics.

Another vanity soundly condemned in the Bible is taking the Lord's name in vain. The third commandment in the Decalogue condemns this as a serious offense. God wants His name to be spoken and praised but He does not want it used irreverently. He has reserved the title Reverend for Himself, so to use His Name in an irreverent way is to use it in vain. It is also in vain for man to assume the judgmental role of God and condemn another to damnation. God has reserved this power for Himself for He is the only One who is All-Knowing. Yet His knowledge is tempered by perfect love. Men are incapable of either so it is in vain for men to assume God's abilities or prerogatives. Profanity and blasphemy are in vain for though men would curse and ridicule God and His Son that way, they can not gain any advantage over Him.

Christians have the distinct honor of bearing the name of Christ, the Anointed One. It is an honor to do so. But if Christians do not live up to that name, then that name is taken in vain. To use the name carelessly by living a life contrary to His Father's will is to have that name applied wrongfully and in vain. Christians must be careful in their walk that it matches their talk or profession.

Vanity is about us on every side. We must reject what is vain just as Solomon did in Ecclesiastes. We must come to the same conclusion he did. Our whole duty is to fear God and to keep His commandments. Have you exchanged vanity for God's Wisdom?

## LOOSENESS

By George R. Brunk

This is an age  
Of looseness and crime  
From the heathen debased  
To the rich of the time;  
The tendency strong  
In Church and in State  
Is to go where you please  
And leave open the gate.

It may be that old "Dobbin"  
Quite stiff in his knees  
Will stand in the park  
Though not tied to the trees,  
And "Spitfire," the colt,  
That will never be tame,  
Has broken six halters  
And made himself lame.

But will this be excuse  
To throw halters away,  
To let each horse decide  
Where to go or to stay?  
Then why do MEN fight  
Against law and good rules,  
For guidance of wise  
And restraining of fools?

For horses or men  
There is only one hope  
If they break their restrictions,  
Just double the rope,  
And if the good laws  
Are wisely applied  
They may learn how to stand  
Without being tied.

I dislike to see boys  
Not high as your shoulder,  
That know ten times more  
Than persons much older,  
And when father and mother  
Lay down some restrictions,  
Get pouty and sullen  
And begin to cause friction.

I never saw Master  
Or Miss such a saint  
But that they were bettered  
By parents' restraint;  
But many a one  
To the gallows has come  
For want of a law  
And a rod in the home.

And then when it comes  
To the laws of the land,  
So many thus tied  
Will not even stand;  
Some men for a dollar  
Will take a man's life;  
Or cheat him in trading,  
Or marry his wife.

Or steal from his neighbor  
His chains or his axes,  
Or give him short measure,  
Or be dodging his taxes.  
But in spite of law-breaking  
There is not a man  
Not constantly helped  
By the laws of the land.

In matters of church  
We know very well  
No law in itself  
Can save one from hell;  
Yet by heeding good laws  
A man's ways are made clean,  
And pitfalls avoided  
That he never had seen,

The flesh can be checked  
And the conscience alarmed  
And evils suppressed  
By which others are harmed.  
By law man is brought  
On this side the grave,  
To the point where the Word  
And the spirit can save.

Now if children are wiser  
 Than Matron or Sire,  
 And safely can play  
 With poison and fire;  
 And loungers in stores  
 With soap box for stool,  
 Know better than Congress  
 How nations to rule;

And the wisdom of God  
 In one single brother  
 Is greater than Bible  
 And conference together,  
 Then nail up the church!  
 Lay the Book on the shelf!  
 And let every man  
 Be a law to himself!

If opposers of law  
 Just only could see  
 They are cutting a limb  
 Twixt themselves and the tree,  
 And if they succeed  
 They not only will fall,  
 But down will come home,  
 Church, nation and all.

If men want no law  
 But their own precious will  
 Let them herd with the bushmen  
 Till they get their fill.  
 I think one such year  
 Would certainly end it —  
 They would favor God's law  
 And forever defend it.

- selected by Sister Irene Stout



### SPIRIT'S GENTLENESS

It is curious to remark that wherever the Holy Ghost is spoken of in the Bible, He is spoken of in terms of gentleness and love. We often read of "the wrath of God" the Father, as Rom. 1:18; and we read of the wrath of God the Son, as Psalm 2:12, but we nowhere read of the wrath of God the Holy Ghost. Matt. 3:16 speaks of Him as a dove.



### DOUBTERS ANSWERED

A professor in one of the leading colleges went to the president with his doubts upon the subject of endless punishment, and confessed that he could "hardly believe the doctrine." "I couldn't believe it at all if the Bible did not teach it," was the president's reply. An aged minister once preached on the subject of eternal punishment. On the next day a young man visited the preacher and said: "I believe there is a small dispute between you and me, sir." "Ah, what is it?" asked the minister. "Why," replied the youth, "You say that the wicked will go into everlasting punishment, and I do not think that they will." "Oh, if that is all," answered the preacher, "there is no dispute between you and me. If you turn to Matt. 25:46, you will find that the dispute is between you and the Lord Jesus Christ, and I advise you to go immediately and settle it with Him."



## WE DON'T HAVE TIME

We live in a very busy world, a very hectic world. The pressure of all this activity and the demands on us causes some strange behavior. For example, we don't have time to stop properly at a stop sign, but we always have time after an accident to go to the hospital or the cemetery. We don't have time to stop the machinery, but we always have time to convalesce after an amputation. We don't have time to do things right, but we always have time to do them over.

As you can see, thinking we don't have time to do what we should is very poor reasoning. The saying "haste makes waste" is not just a saying; it's a fact. Time may be wasted, property may be damaged, or lives lost, simply because we are in a big hurry and don't have time to be cautious. There's so much to be done and so little time to do it in, so we continue our mad rush. We don't even consider whether it makes sense or not.

There is one matter in life which people ignore until it happens to them, but when their time comes, they will have time for it. This matter is death. Death is not a welcome interruption to our plans, but we can't sidestep it and hurry on. We will face it — ready or not — when the time comes. To the rich man, God said, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee." (Luke 12:20) This man had been totally concerned about his business affairs and left God out of his life. He had natural riches but was a pauper spiritually. He didn't have time for his soul's need, but when death came, he had time for that.

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." (II Cor. 6:2) None of us has any assurance of life beyond this moment. We need to take time for the Lord now while we can and not do as Felix did. "And as he (Paul) reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." (Acts 24:25) As far as we know, a convenient season never came.

It is easy to put things off, to think that we will have more time later on. The problem is if we're too busy now, we will always be too busy. The only time we have is now, and now is when urgent matters should be taken care of. If we don't get the house cleaned on time or the farm work done on schedule, it won't matter in Eternity. But the condition of our souls when we enter Eternity will matter.

It is time now to check up on yourself. Examine your priorities and put them in the proper order. You will find time for the things

most important to you, and your soul's need is the most important responsibility you have. Put that first and then other matters are more likely to be in the right order.

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." (Jer. 8:20) There will come a time when all of our activities in this life will cease abruptly. When life is over, it's over, and it cannot be resumed. If we have taken time for the Lord as we should, all will be well. If we thought we didn't have time and waited for a convenient season, the opportunity is gone, and now the Lord won't have time for us.

Are you too busy? Are you waiting for a convenient season? Do you think you don't have time right now for God? In Eternity, you'll have lots of time — to think, to regret, to wish you had taken time for God. So take time for Him now — then you will have no regrets.

Sister Eileen Broadwater



## WOMAN OF POMPEII

It is said that among the recent discoveries in the ruins of Pompeii, a city that was destroyed by volcanic eruption in A.D. 79, was woman in the act of gathering in her apron, rings, bracelets and other valuable articles of jewelry. It would seem that some wealthy persons, aware of the coming destruction, had made their escape and left these things behind, as worthless in comparison with life; but she, hoping to save both life and jewels, delayed the time of her flight, and alas, was overwhelmed in the terrific judgment, and so lost both her life and the treasure.



## SENTINEL'S DUTY

A Christian's watchfulness should be like that of a good soldier. A sentinel, posted on the walls of a fortress, when he discerns the enemy approaching, does not attempt to make an attack upon the foe himself, but informs the commanding officer, and leaves him to take proper measures to vanquish the enemy. We cannot conquer so wily and powerful a foe as Satan, but by watching and praying, we may hope, by the help of God, to resist him.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "The Eternal Flame"

When God gave His laws to the Children of Israel, He provided a way for those laws to be remembered. He commanded the fathers to teach them to their children generation after generation. This is somewhat like the picture we see in the torch relay races of the ancient Olympic games. A lighted torch was passed from one runner to another until the goal was reached. The flame itself could not be touched, and so the torch had a handle that enabled the runner to carry it safely.

We are experiencing "Olympicssmania" in our country this summer and I am sure we are familiar that the Olympic torch was carried across our country as a kick-off for those games. Energy was expended to run the 8700 miles by 4000 runners. Imagine the impact if that same amount of work and man hours was exerted in sharing Jesus with this country.

In the days of the Psalmist David, faith in God was kept alive and progressed to others as it was passed from one to another as we read in Psalms 78:5. ("For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:")

But just as a flame of fire by itself would be very difficult to pass from one runner to another in a race, so faith itself is difficult to maintain alone. Just as the torch needs a handle, so our faith needs a means whereby we can hold it high and keep it brightly burning. Worship is one means whereby we may exercise our faith as we express it in hymns and prayers. It is also a means whereby we convey the faith we have in God to others as we demonstrate that we believe His commandments and are willing to follow Him.

Too often today worship in the house of the Lord by those who profess to be Christian families is put on a low priority basis and if there is any excuse available to get out of going, people use it. The flame of faith then becomes a dying ember instead of a brightly illuminating force. I would encourage you to attend EVERY worship service and be a viable part of that service. As with any aspect of life, you will only get out of it what you put into it.

If you spend much time in worship of the Lord, if you build your faith into a brightly burning flame, if you use that light to bring others to the Lord... your life will be successful and happy. You will experience a zest for living each day that very few people experience in this life.

Your worship experience should be a source of inspiration to



do greater work for Jesus. Will you let Jesus illuminate your life? Will you carry the torch for Him?

Brother Leonard Wertz

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

October 15, 1924

### EVOLUTION

J. R. Blocher

The universe of God is a unit, materially, intellectually, and spiritually. True science, philosophy and scripture all harmonize and support one another.

There must be a clear distinction made between established scientific facts and mere hypothesis. An established fact is an accepted truism having passed the experimental stages of investigation and upon unimpeachable evidence, has won for itself unanimous acceptance. A hypothesis is the statement of a proposition, condition, principle or theory not proven, but assumed for argument, or to explain certain facts. Evolution is not an established fact, but is a hypothesis, accepted by certain scientific scholars as an explanation of the riddle of creation.

There are two very distinct things called evolution today, namely, the cultural development from a lower to a higher form within a species but not passing from specie to specie. This takes the wild rose and makes out of it the American Beauty. This takes the savage human, who is the fallen product of God's original perfect creation, and especially with the aid of the gospel of Jesus Christ makes a high-minded, peace-loving and progressive man out of him. This development is an established fact. There can be no reasonable ground for its denial. The other theory claims that in development there is a passing from one specie to another specie. This is called transmutation. This is the working hypothesis of certain scholars and is basic in Darwinian evolution. The attitude of the transmutation evolutionists compromises the veracity of the Genesis account of creation as to its scientific accuracy.

The two divisions of transmutation evolutionists are the atheistic and the theistic. The atheistic wing ignores the Bible, while the theistic claim to accept the Bible and then explain away its meaning, where it conflicts with their theory.

They claim that the Bible is a religious book and does not speak scientifically and that its statements are not scientifically accurate. It is true that the Bible is not primarily a scientific work, but its

main purpose is to state the right relationship of man to God or the salvation of the sinner through the blood of Jesus Christ. However, where the Bible speaks it is scientifically as well as religiously true and reliable.

There are no established facts in science that are not supported by the scriptures. There are no scriptures that are out of harmony with scientific facts. There are many scientific hypotheses that are at variance with the scriptures, none of which have nor shall enter the realm of established fact. The Holy Bible is the canon by which the scientific speculations shall finally be adjudged.

Science and not the scriptures is on trial when there is a contradiction between them. The impregnable Rock of Holy Scriptures shall stand the cannonade of scientific criticism and not be moved from its enviable position of supremacy. The Apostle Paul says, "... avoid oppositions of science falsely so-called." (1 Tim. 6:20)

## **SATURDAY, THE JEWISH SABBATH OR SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY, WHICH?**

William Root

The Origin of the Sabbath. The first Sabbath was given to Israel in the wilderness. This is where it was first instituted and named. In the wilderness, before their eventful halt at Sinai's base, and that was after the lapse of twenty-five centuries from the history of man's creation. Exodus 16:29, "See, for that the Lord hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day. So the people rested on the seventh day." The above text is not only the first record of the Sabbath law, but it is the first time the seventh day is called Sabbath. It was not long after this that the Sabbath law was incorporated in the Decalogue, which was the law given at Sinai.

Which is the fourth commandment, "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy." Exodus 20:8. The word "remember" implies that the law had been previously given, as seen above. For proof we offer the following. Neh. 9:12-14, "Moreover thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar; and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go. Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments: And madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandest precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant." He does not say "restore" but "madest known;" hence the Sabbath was a revelation, something they never knew before.

Also, Ezek. 20:10-12, "Wherefore I caused them to go forth out of the land of Egypt, and brought them into the wilderness. And gave them my statutes, and shewed them my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them. Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them." Note this language carefully, "I gave them my sabbaths." This language clearly indicates that they did not previously have the sabbaths. Again Israel did not know how to prepare victuals for the Sabbath. Exodus 16:22-23, "And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. And he said unto them, This is that which the Lord hath said, Tomorrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the Lord, bake that which ye will bake today, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning." These verses shew that the Sabbath was a new "Ordinance" to them and not that it was a day of worship and rest handed down to them from the days of Adam, for they did not know how to rest, on the Sabbath day.

Exod. 16:26-29, "Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none. And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day to gather and they found none. And the Lord said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws? See, for that the Lord hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day." These verses show that the people had not heretofore been observing the Sabbath as a day of rest. Hence, they did not know how to deal with the violation of the Sabbath; the circumstance stands related thus: "And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day. And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him." Therefore we should be impressed with the weight of this last thought; for it is conclusive, that if the Sabbath had been previously given to the patriarchs, Israel certainly would have known how to dispose of an offender.

Note: If God's Sabbath had been observed, previous to the giving of in the wilderness, then the violating of the Sabbath is not once named, but after that it was given to Israel, their violation of the Sabbath is frequently mentioned. Neh. 13:18, "Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the



sabbath." Also Ezek. 20:13, "But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness: they walked not in my statutes, and they despised my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; and my sabbaths they greatly polluted: then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them in the wilderness, to consume them." Ezek. 22:8, "Thou hast despised mine holy things, and hast profaned my sabbaths." Sabbatarians vehemently proclaim, that, "The sabbath was given in the creation week." Also that, "The command to observe the Sabbath is associated with nine moral precepts; which are binding upon all men during all time." Their writers say, "Which day do you keep, and why?" Also they say, "For over four thousand years this day was sacredly observed by the people of God." (See "The Christian Sabbath," page 1; see also, "Origin of Truth Found," page 7.)

But the Word of God says, "And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it." Gen. 2:2-3. This text which Moses wrote in the Pentateuch, affirms three things: (1) God ended His work on the seventh day, (2) God rested on the seventh day, (3) God blessed and sanctified the seventh day. It simply tells what God did on the seventh day, after His Creation, of all things, in the six days of His Creation. The language is not imperative — nothing commanded. Besides, the record does not say when God blessed the seventh day. Therefore, the theory of founding the Sabbath upon Gen. 2:2-3, is clearly without warrant. The children of Israel's deliverance from Egypt beings in a new era in the history of that people; with this new era there is strong presumptive proof that there was a change in the reckoning of time. For Exod. 12:2 says, "This month shall be unto you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you." Hence, in this new era God gave His people a Sabbath, not named in any previous era.

To be continued

Selected by Joseph Lavy

## **HOLY SPIRIT**

I often think of the sermons we hear about examining ourselves. David did not want any thing to stand in his way. "Search me O Lord and try me." Many people today are looking for a sign, probably now they are not looking for a sign, but waiting for the shout. How wonderful it is to think the One who made the stars and this old world, we will meet face to face and hear say "Come Home." "There is now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

We are grateful for the many messages we hear, warning those outside the ark of safety to prepare to meet the Lord who died that they could have life after death and a Home in Heaven with all the redeemed. The Devil has a place for the wicked ones, so be careful. Which place are you preparing for? Let the Holy Spirit be your guide.

Many Saints, I feel, really know the Lord Jesus Christ or the Holy Spirit, He left us a Comforter after He went to Heaven. He is to guide us all the way. Jesus knew He was going to die. He told His disciples He was going away. This was very hard on those who loved Him dearly, the same as today when some of our own loved ones leave us to go to their Heavenly Home. He knew the human ties that were between them. He said He would send the Comforter. "But if I don't go away, He will not come."

He will tell us what to do, but if we do not obey, it won't do us any good. We must let the Holy Spirit come into our lives and guide us in the way of righteousness and help us stay true to our Blessed Lord. If one who has been His child and won't let the Spirit lead him, is it any wonder he has gone back into sin? Many times, I believe, the Spirit has been very close to a lost soul, but until he or she is willing to say, "I want the Spirit," all will be in vain. Animals don't like to be led around, so many people are the same when they don't want to yield to the Spirit.

But when the Holy Spirit does come in, it makes us want to work, to be a witness to the goodness of Jesus the Lord and Saviour. Many times we grieve the Holy Spirit. Simeon was told he would not see death until he saw the Lord Jesus. The Spirit will not come where He will not be welcome. In this life if you went to a home and did not feel welcome you would not stay long. When our lives and the Holy Spirit can be hooked together then we can have the peace that passes all understanding. Our life in this body is as a flower, it soon dies and is cut down. Let the Holy Spirit take hold of your life and live for Him each day until the end.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## NEARING THE END

We are nearing the end of the journey,  
We have reached earth's hour,  
When love shall be crowned with glory  
And justice shall stand in power;  
When the forces of wrong, defeated,  
Shall cease with the setting sun  
As the last great page of this mighty age  
Sends forth the decree: It is done.

We are nearing the end of the journey;  
It's only a little way  
To the joy of a sinless day.  
In the strength of that hope eternal  
Let us drop every wearing load.  
The triumph of right is now in sight;  
We are nearing the end of the road.

- Michael W. Capps

## **WANTED - WORKERS**

God never goes to the lazy or the idle when He needs men for His service. When He has work to be done, He goes to those who are already at work. When God wants a great servant, He calls a busy man.

Scripture and history attest this truth.

Moses was busy with his flocks at Horeb.

Gideon was busy threshing wheat by the winepress.

Saul was busy searching for his father's lost beast.

David was busy caring for his father's sheep.

Elisha was busy plowing with twelve yoke of oxen.

Nehemiah was busy bearing the king's wine cup.

Amos was busy following the flock.

Peter and Andrew were busy casting a net into the sea.

James and John were busy mending their nets.

Matthew was busy collecting customs.

Saul was busy persecuting the friends of Jesus.

William Carey was busy mending and making shoes.

- Author Unknown

Are you going to be a willing worker? "Let us then be up and doing;" working only for Jesus and the cause of Christ.

We can think of all kinds of excuses like; "The Elder does not do it so I don't have to;"; "It is not mandatory;"; "Why should I waste my time;"; "It is not necessary." On and on the excuses go but **EXCUSES WILL GET YOU NOWHERE !**

In Christian Love  
Sister Shirley Frick



## NEWS ITEMS

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Englewood Congregation plans to have Fall Lovefeast on October 27. Services starting at 2:00 p.m. All are invited to attend with us and fellowship together. Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

### DIRECTORY

The directories are ready for distribution. They are \$3.00 each, postage paid.

Sister Jolene Andrews

Rt. 2

Raymore, MO 64083

### APPRECIATION

Sister Margaret Marks was taken to the hospital for emergency treatment. Seemed fully recovered in three days, she was discharged. We ask your prayers. Your words of comfort and your prayers are much appreciated, realizing we have no promise of future life on this earth.

Brother and Sister J. F. Marks

### THANKS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to thank each and everyone for their gifts, cards, visits and flowers while I was in the hospital and recuperating at home and especially for your prayers. May God bless each and every one of you is my prayer.

Sister Goldie R. Sweitzer

## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation (Act of August 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code). Showing the ownership, management and circulation of The Bible Monitor, published semi-monthly at Wauseon, Ohio 43567, October 1, 1984.

1. The names and addresses of the editor, publishers, and owners are: EDITOR, Milton Cook, 1138 East 12th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223; PUBLISHER, Glanz Printing, Inc., 4-4017-11, Wauseon, OH 43567; OWNER, Dunkard Brethren Church, 1138 East 12th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223.

2. There are no stockholders, bond holders or other security holders.

3. The average number of copies per issue distributed by mail and otherwise the previous twelve months was 1,452.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 1984 ON THE EARTH

Memory Verse: Jeremiah 51:15

"He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding."

Thur. 1 - Jer. 51:7-15

Fri. 2 - Lam. 3:22-66

Sat. 3 - Ezek. 8:1-18

Memory Verse: Habakkuk 2:14

"For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

Sun. 4 - Ezek. 31:1-18

Mon. 5 - Ezek. 32:1-32

Tues. 6 - Ezek. 34:1-34

Wed. 7 - Ezek. 35:1-15

Thur. 8 - Ezek. 38:1-23

Fri. 9 - Ezek. 39:1-29

Sat. 10 - Ezek. 43:1-27

Memory Verse: Ezekiel 34:27

"And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the Lord, when I have broken the bands of their yolk, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them."

Sun. 11 - Dan. 2:31-49

Mon. 12 - Hosea 2:1-23

Tues. 13 - Joel 2:1-32

Wed. 14 - Amos 3:1-15

Thur. 15 - Amos 9:1-15

Fri. 16 - Jonah 2:1-10

Sat. 17 - Amos 5:1-27

Memory Verse: Ezekiel 43:2

"And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like a noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory."

Sun. 18 - Amos 8:1-14

Mon. 19 - Micah 6:1-16

Tues. 20 - Micah 7:1-20

Wed. 21 - Nahum 1:1-15

Thur. 22 - Hab. 2:1-20

Fri. 23 - Hab. 3:1-19

Sat. 24 - Zeph. 3:1-20

Memory Verse: Joel 2:30-31

"And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come."

Sun. 25 - Haggai 1:1-15

Mon. 26 - Zech. 1:1-21

Tues. 27 - Zech. 4:1-14

Wed. 28 - Zech. 6:1-15

Thur. 29 - Zech. 12:1-14

Fri. 30 - Mal. 4:1-6

Memory Verse: Amos 8:9

"And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:"

Micah 7:2

"The good man is perished out of the earth: and there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net."

Lester Fisher  
4664 N. State Rte. 48  
Covington, OH 45318

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

NOVEMBER 1, 1984

NO. 21

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## NO TIME FOR GOD

You've time to build houses, and in them to dwell.  
And time to do business, to buy and to sell.  
But none for repentance, or deep, earnest prayer;  
To seek your salvation you've no time to spare.

You've time for earth's pleasures, for frolic and fun,  
For glittering treasures how quickly you run,  
But care not to seek the fair mansions above,  
The favor of God or the gift of His love.

You've time to take voyages over the sea,  
And time to take in the gay world's jubilee,  
But soon your bright hopes will be lost in the gloom,  
Of the cold river of death, and the tomb.

You've time to resort to woods, mountain and glen,  
And time to gain knowledge from books and of men.  
Yet no time to search for the wisdom of God,  
But what of your soul when you're under the sod?

For time will not linger when helpless you lie;  
Staring death in the face you will take time to die!  
Then, what of the judgment? Pause, think, I implore!  
For time will be lost on Eternity's shore.

- Selected by Sister Susanna B. Johns



## THE BATTLE

The Apostle Paul refers to an inward battle that he had to fight, which each Christian must also fight. In Romans 7, he speaks of that battle that constantly raged within him. Rightly it is called a battle. Just as a battle fought in natural warfare, so this Spiritual battle is very decisive not only at the immediate time but also for the future.

Paul was certainly one of the greatest leaders of the Church to ever live, yet we find that he had to face the same problems in his life that Christians do today. He had pictured how terrible sin was. He showed how it had affected all mankind — Jew and Gentile alike. He had explained the new birth that would make a man a new creature in Christ Jesus. Even though a man could now dwell in newness of life, still sin sought every possible opportunity to overcome him.

Paul had the feelings that affect Christians who have a desire to do right. There is within a desire to do the right thing — to live a righteous life — yet there is still the pull of carnality that leads a man to do the very opposite. This is that battle which must be won by the Christian, yet its outcome is so often in doubt.

The Christian desires to do God's will but Satan comes along with pleasures and enticements that make doing right difficult. As it is often pictured in cartoons the Christian has an angel at one ear and a devil at the other whispering and pleading with him to follow their individual course. This battle is like a dog fight between a black dog and white dog, only that battle is an internal one within the Christian. Unlike the fight between two real dogs, the Christian does have control over which one wins. The Christian has the power of choice and he must exercise it to determine what will be the end.

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

## NOVEMBER 1, 1984

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This battle against sin is not always so easy to see in black and white. For the carnal desires of our bodies make what is wrong to seem right. We persuade ourselves or are persuaded by Satan that we can do as we please without harm to our Spiritual life. It is often those things that are good themselves that entice us to give them place in our lives instead of giving place to those things that are better and will better us, Spiritually.

How often do good intentions go awry in the Christian's life? We have the desire to do the right thing not only in morals, but in our relations with others. We have the intention of writing a letter, making a visit, paying a compliment but we keep putting it off. Too often we procrastinate until too late. The intention was very good but no one ever knew about it but ourselves. The good that could have been accomplished never was because we did not carry out the intention. No one else profited from our desires. Even we ourselves did not profit from the intention because it was never carried out. That good and warm feeling when good has been done for another could never be felt because the deed remained undone. It is important that we have such good intentions, that there is a desire to be helpful to another, for our greatest good is to do good to another. When our intentions are unfulfilled, we have to that extent left unfulfilled that which Christ would have for us to do.

As Christians we must measure our progress in the battle by the example of Jesus. What if He had had only intentions but never acted upon them? He had His battles also. He had to face and overcome the temptations of Satan. There by the Word He overcame, He did not merely intend to overcome. He overcame the desire to let the cup of suffering to pass from Him. He resolved that crisis by submitting to the Father. This gives us an example to follow. We may want what is carnally desirable, but we too can submit to the Father and do His Will.

The gap between Paul's will and performance weighed heavily upon him. That gap is present with us and it should not be shrugged away as being the natural thing. Instead we should find the same deliverance from it that Paul did. He found the Lord Jesus Christ. First, he found Jesus as Saviour to deliver him from the power of sin. He found Him as the One who could deliver him from death through His atonement on Calvary. Second, he could turn to Jesus as the One who could help him overcome the carnal desires that would defeat his Spiritual desires. We have the same help available to us.

Are you in the midst of this battle? Good! If there is no battle then you are dead and without hope, but if you are battling to do good then there is life and hope. Keep on battling and depending on the Lord to make you victorious.



## IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM

Pilate said, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it." (Matt. 27:24) What he meant was "It's not my problem." When Judas said "I have betrayed innocent blood", the chief priests and elders said, "What is that to us? See thou to that." (Matt. 27:4) What they meant was "It's not our problem. You take care of it." The truth is that they all shared in this problem, but did not want to accept it.

How many times have you said, "That's not my problem" when in reality, it WAS your problem? Pilate tried to wash his hands of his responsibility, but that didn't change it. Judas tried to escape his responsibility by returning the money he had received. The chief priests and elders refused to accept any responsibility for the betrayal, saying it was all Judas' problem. Then they didn't know what to do with the money, so bought a potter's field with it. It became known as the field of blood. Trying to evade their responsibilities didn't change the matter, nor did it bring them peace, and it won't work for you either.

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12. We are responsible to God for what we do with our lives and also for what we do or don't do for the people around us. It IS our problem when someone needs help which we can give. It IS our problem when we know to do good, and simply refuse to do it. We can't wash our hands of our responsibility anymore than Pilate could.

People must accept responsibility for their own lives, but that doesn't mean we never need to help each other. Some matters aren't our problem and we do need to learn that. We should not be nose-y and neither should we use "it's not my problem" as a way to get out of doing what we should. Accepting our responsibility to others means getting involved where necessary. We should not be trying to set everyone straight but should have a genuine concern for them and a desire to help.

Adam blamed Eve for his wrong-doing, and she in turn blamed the serpent. God still held them responsible for what they had done and a penalty had to be paid. See Gen. 3:12-19. Blaming someone else when we have done wrong will not set us free either. We will still have to face the consequences of our actions. Whoever we try to blame may be at fault in some way, but God will require us all to give an account, not just us or them.

Aaron blamed the children of Israel for the golden calf, but Moses required Aaron to answer for it. He was trying to say "I can't be blamed for this because it was their idea." This is recorded in Exodus 32. Note verse 24, where Aaron said he cast their gold



into the fire and the calf came out, just as though it appeared without any help. It sounds like the excuses little children make sometimes when trying to escape the responsibility for their actions. Aaron and the people were all responsible and I'm sure they all suffered for it.

Saying "it's not my problem" is a lame excuse for evading the issue. It can be an effort to side-step one's responsibility, as King Saul tried to do when he blamed the people for taking the spoil. See I Sam. 15 and note verses 9 and 20-23. Saul said he had kept the commandment of the Lord, but he hadn't. As the king, he was supposed to make sure things were done right, but he didn't. Saul paid a bitter price for his disobedience and so will we if we are disobedient. Blaming someone else won't change it.

Is it someone else's problem? Or, is it really yours? If it is yours, what are you doing about it? You can try to wash your hands of it, as Pilate did. You can say "what I did doesn't bother me" as the chief priests did. You can blame someone else as Adam and Eve, or Saul and Aaron did. Whatever you do, just remember that you must give account to God, and it pays to obey Him. There is no justification in "it's not my problem", or in any other excuse.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Why not enough happiness today"

We as Christian people sometimes do not experience the happiness that we should today. Could the reason be that we are so busy pursuing it that we don't really understand what it is? Most people feel they can be happy when everything is going their way. It is the idea from the song, "I've got a wonderful feeling, everything's going my way....," but life is not like that. There is no way that you can expect everything always to go your way. So if happiness is related to that idea, you will usually settle for a lot of unhappiness.

The Bible illustrates to us that happiness is not necessarily related to happenings and that it is possible for people to be happy in difficult and unpleasant situations. Paul talked a lot about joy when he was in prison. Jesus told His disciples to "rejoice and be exceedingly glad" when they were persecuted because they were His. So obviously happiness and joy are more than just good feelings resulting from pleasant circumstances.

The Greeks were sure that their gods were always having a "good time". They used the word, "blessed," to describe it. This means to be "enriched, contented, and fulfilled."

As "blessed" applies to us, we see it in Matt. 5:3, "Blessed are the poor in spirit." The First Psalm tells us we are blessed or contented and fulfilled if we don't walk in the counsel of the ungodly, stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of the scornful. The psalmist makes it clear that happiness will not be found in these areas. He teaches us that we sometimes chase happiness where it is not to be found.

Happiness is not found in a life-style that leaves out God. An atheist has a godless philosophy and he chooses to believe that God does not exist. He has a major problem in that if there is no God behind this universe, there is no reason for his own existence. Both he and his world are just mere products of fate and are chance products of meaningless events.

Not so alien to the atheist is the person who gives only lip service to God but doesn't feel it necessary to regard Him as supreme, at the top of his life. Tensions and unhappiness result from an unwillingness to follow God's requirements closely. The person who does not have God at the base of his thinking will have no guidelines at the root of his behaving and that makes life unfulfilling and frustrating.

Many young people and older people alike have become cynical in our day. They have seen so much of the artificial, or the minimized, Christian experience. For this reason, they laugh at divine standards and principles and become full of anguish at what they see as a lack of the genuine. This philosophy is doomed to a disappointing Christian experience. It is enough to remember that GOD IS!!!! Happiness, then, comes from understanding that we are personally responsible to the Creator, not just a vague force. The law of the Lord is perfect and it stipulates what will make us happy. You have to know the rules and you will only be fulfilled and understand the "delights" as you assiduously follow those instructions. The measure you fail to fulfill God's law is directly proportionate to your happiness. Without your roots penetrating deep into the river of God's will, you will continue to strain to find true happiness.

If God puts you in a certain situation, be happy and content in it. Bring forth fruit for Him. That production will bring about the happy life.

We are in the Fall season and we see leaves bursting forth with a splash of color then curling up, falling and experiencing death. Don't be like them. Be like the stately evergreen, not withering away but exhibiting consistency and quiet determination.

It is beautiful to see that God promises us prosperity of life rather than of bank accounts. He assures us if we obey Him and honor

Him that in our obedience and trust we will find the enriched life. This is the source of true happiness.

Don't allow Satan to lead you to be defeated in spirit. Live fruitful, consistent and encouraged each day for Christ. Be calm and settled in your soul, knowing with assurance that all is well if you are honoring God with your life. This assurance is the most important factor of real happiness. The Lord IS IN CONTROL of every situation into which His obedient child moves and each step of the way leads us closer to Glory.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

November 1, 1924

### OUR CLOTHING.

James L. Switzer

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1.

Does Paul here mean our physical bodies? Certainly he does. "And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Romans 12:2.

One of the very strong elements of our Brethren's faith, for almost 200 years has been that the Apostle Paul was good authority. The denying that he is, in some respects, is among us, of only recent origin. This lamentable fact is surprising testimony that the "falling away" that is coming in these last days.

How do we present our bodies? How are we to present our bodies? Why, it has been the unvarying faith of the Brethren that we ought to present them with clothes on, (not half-naked as some now do). It would be a surprising thing if some of us would present our bodies at church, or elsewhere, without any clothes on. That would indeed be presenting our bodies a living sacrifice! As this would be unlawful and absurd, the reasonable conclusion must be that Paul has reference to the clothing we place upon our bodies, for that is the only way we dare present them. "Not with gold or diamonds or costly array", says Paul.

That looks, to some of us, like a very broad hint that we better lay aside the finger rings, wrist watches and diamond breastpins. And if this is a commandment of God, as Paul says, it is disobeying him not to do so.

"Oh, clothes don't make the Christian." No, but according to



Paul the Christian should make the clothing in conformity to the direction of God. Our apparel is an adorning. That adorning was regulated for the priests under the Law of Moses. We are priests under the Gospel, and the Gospel regulates our adorning. To discard this and adorn ourselves according to the world removes us from the priesthood and from fellowship with God. In reality, then, it does make a very considerable difference how we dress. Such was the faith of the Brethren Church when I became a member some sixty years ago.

Well, how did it come about that the Brethren, very early in the history of the church established a uniform order of adornment? Our brethren covenanted with God to obey his will in all things, as it is revealed in the New Testament scriptures. The regulation of the Order of Dress was found to be there. Was found to be a certainty that it must be observed as given there for both brethren and sisters. That led them to the certain duty and conclusion that everything of a worldly and superfluous nature must be discarded, according to the word and only that which was necessary for their comfort or welfare might be made use of. We are likened unto sheep, they said, and we should appear before the world as near alike as we can. We are soldiers, they said, and our uniform should be such that we may be known thereby, while we fight the good fight of faith, and then the world may take knowledge of us that we are witnessing for Jesus. Then again, we must with one mind and one spirit strive together for God.

Here is the origin of uniform dressing. And the same good word of God that gave it existence has perpetuated that splendid order for nearly two centuries. The one mind and the one spirit — that spirit of love and fellowship and communion bound our dear brethren together for many years; to move along amidst darkness, everywhere displaying the light of the glory of God. Their light shone as well in their appearance as in their kindly and affectionate good works. Why should we discard the word of God and our brethren's example now? Is there any necessity for it? Any persecution driving us to it? Suppose that while I was in the Union Army I should have discarded the Blue and donned the Gray. What would have been the consequence? Suppose I cease witnessing for Jesus now and begin witnessing for the devil? You remember what his name is: satan, - an adversary. Apollyon, - a destroyer. Abbaddon, - the angel of the bottomless pit. Ought our adorning be a witness for him? It would be a sad and expensive thing to do. For he has his witnesses changing their adorning very often. Let us be loyal and true. Let us be consistent. Let us avoid evil and cling to that which is good and pleasing to our Father which is in Heaven. It is safer. It is better.

## UNCLAIMED BLESSINGS

General Conference is past. The tabernacle is closed, the cabins are empty, and the snack bar is sold out. How different from a short time ago, when the place was bustling with activity. There were hundreds of persons moving about the grounds. Some were hurrying to yet another committee meeting, while others were renewing acquaintances. There were grandmothers, granddaughters, mothers, fathers, teens, adolescents, and babies. And maybe there was that special someone — that person who is out of their teens, yet still single; the person around whom had been built a few hopes and dreams; the person who could rescue you from being an “unclaimed blessing.”

But alas, Conference is over, everyone has gone home, and nothing has changed. Hopes are dashed and dreams are shattered. Maybe he was even seen with another girl. Or maybe there just isn't anyone. And the realization that maybe you'll be an unclaimed blessing — a person (especially a young woman) who has not been claimed in marriage — for another several years or even forever, sweeps over your entire being like a cold wave dashing over your head and knocking you down hard to the ground.

Being an unclaimed blessing is certainly one of the more frustrating aspects of life. The single person who finds himself or herself past the teen years desperately wishes they could apply the brakes to the fleeting weeks and months. In our particular society, the accepted pattern of life is to settle down, get married, and raise a family. Often single people, especially girls, have a deep desire to do just that.

But that special fellow somehow never shows up. When the phone rings, it's some lady wanting you to hostess a party or do some babysitting. The mail brings advertisements, not letters. Revivals come and go but nothing happens. Anticipation mounts as General Conference draws near, and depression sets in as it goes by so quickly and you go unnoticed. A big lump forms deep down inside near your heart and a tear trickles down your cheek. Your hopes for a close, loving, romantic relationship seem to be shattered. You feel alone.

You ask God many times for help, and you hear in return — silence. Being an unclaimed blessing is a tough row to hoe. Even nature seems against you as there are more girls than boys in our society. What can be done about this situation? How can a single person find purpose in life?

### 1. EXAMINE YOUR PRIORITIES.

As a Christian, what do you want out of life? Is getting a life's



partner the most important goal? Whom do you really want to serve?

Matthew 6:33 says, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." God desires your affection and love. He wants you to have a character like that of Jesus Christ. He desires that you be strong in character and mighty in Spirit. God wants the very best for your life! So even though your prayers aren't answered by some Prince Charming appearing in your mailbox, God is working in your life. His goal is to create in you purity of character, graced with love, joy, peace, gentleness, and patience. He may even be working on longsuffering!

Colossians 3:2 instructs, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Too often priorities are set on things pertaining to self. People can become very possessive about money, time, and things. Priorities become centered around self, and God is either completely left out or maybe given a few minutes a week. It's natural to set a priority on getting a life's partner. But the Bible doesn't give instructions on husband-hunting. Rather, God says to set your affections on Him. Instead of seeking for the right person, become the right person. Put your first priority on seeking God. Learn all you can about Him. Seek to imitate the character of Jesus Christ. Spend much time in the Word of God. Pray and meditate. Enjoy knowing God.

## 2. STUDY THE BIBLE FOR EXAMPLES.

For men, the Apostle Paul is a great example of service to God. He had many hard times, but I believe he was fulfilled.

One example for girls is Dorcas (Acts 9). Dorcas was full of good works and almsdeeds or works of mercy. She made coats and garments for the widows. People wept when Dorcas got sick and died. Peter was called and she was raised from the dead. I believe Dorcas was kept busy serving the Lord by discerning and meeting the needs of others.

Mary and Martha of Bethany are good examples of offering hospitality. They served meals to Jesus (John 12). Note that when Jesus was in Jerusalem, He didn't stay there overnight, but went to Bethany (Mark 11:11-12). Christ had a place of refuge to get away from the hustle and bustle and pressures of the city of Jerusalem. Seek ways of serving the Lord by serving others.

## 3. SERVE GOD FROM WHERE YOU ARE.

Paul says, that you, as a single person, can care for the things of the Lord, that you may be holy both in body and in spirit much better than the woman who is married (I Corinthians 7). There are opportunities for service that a married woman doesn't have. Use



your time wisely for activities like visiting old people and widows, working on crafts, offering to babysit so couples can have an evening together, and teaching children in Sunday School, if called. You have more time and energy to put into such activities than a married person.

When you view service to others as a way to serve the Lord, it becomes joyful. If the activities are done out of duty, they can become drudgery real fast. So it's largely due to whether you choose to be withdrawn and sitting at home pining for that phone to ring, or whether you choose to be outgoing, vibrant, and fulfilled in service to the Lord Jesus Christ. It helps a lot to remember what He did for you on Calvary.

Consider the woman who has been married for several years. She is a Christian. But for her, the desire for a man in her life was greater than the desire to care for the things of the Lord. She dated a non-christian. He went along to church and seemed like a real decent sort of fellow. It appeared he had good character qualities. She married him. Today, he never sets foot in a church and complains if she goes. He cares a lot more about his job and hobbies than about her. She spends her time working to help meet the budget, and doing household chores is drudgery due to a total lack of appreciation. She has given up going to church because the scene it creates when she comes home just isn't worth it. Her preschool child's one hope in life is that mommy and daddy would quit fighting and love each other. Her heart is pierced as her preschooler takes her hand and her husband's hand and joins them together in hopes that this will somehow resolve the conflicts. Her dreams for a close, loving, romantic relationship are shattered. Instead of closeness, the more he's away the more peace there is. Love has turned to anger and hate. Romantic feelings have turned to bitterness. Even though they live under the same roof, their marriage is dead.

Girls, this is what the devil has to offer. It looks like everything you always wanted up front, but the end result is brokenness, bitterness, and shattered lives. God may or may not offer a husband. But he does offer a fulfilled life in total surrender to Jesus Christ. What is your choice?

Brother Robert Lehigh



Genius, without religion, is only a lamp on the outer gate of a palace; it may serve to cast a gleam of light on those that are without, while the inhabitant is in darkness. — H. More.

## **SATURDAY, THE JEWISH SABBATH, OR SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY, WHICH?**

William Root

In this article on the above named subject, we begin by pointing out that God gave the law of His Sabbath to Israel, to those of their households. God gave that law to Israel in the form of a Covenant with them and it was a special Covenant with them, which had not been given to their fathers. Which is another proof that the patriarchs had not had the law of God's sabbath. Exodus 31:13-15, "Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you. Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from his people. Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death."

After calling all Israel together, Moses uttered words to them shewing them and us, that this covenant was for them specifically, and was not given to their fathers. Deut. 5:2-3, "The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day." There and then, at that very time. God speaking — by Malachi: listen — This very law or covenant was pointed out by Malachi the prophet, about the year B.C. 397. Mal. 4:4, "Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments." Here we have Israel's own testimony that the covenant in Horeb was made not with their fathers but with them.

God Himself names who shall keep His sabbaths, which was "Israel." In a text previously quoted, God again through the prophet says, "I made known to them my holy sabbaths." After which it is said: "So the people rested on the seventh day," in humble obedience to the new law given. It is further explained that, "One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you." Exodus 12:49. So we see that Gentile servants or strangers, tarrying in Jewish families, were required to obey the Sabbath law. Under similar circumstances common courtesy requires the same in our society today.

But, alas; alas, the people of our day have largely disregarded God's law, concerning a holy day of rest, and have made it an holiday, or just another day of the week. There is nothing strange

in God's provision, for the Sabbath under ancient Jewish law. Sabbatarians sometimes criticize the expression, "Jewish Sabbath." We remind them that they use in their writings the expressions, "Jewish altars," "Jewish synagogues," and so forth. We remind them also how God's prophet prophesied, shewing God's judgment for spiritual whoredom, for Restoration of Judah and Israel, for God's judgments against them, speaking in a parallel sense, "I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts." Hos. 2:11.

God speaks of the feast days as "YOUR SABBATHS." Levit. 23:32, "It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath." Also Jeremiah speaks of "HER SABBATHS," Lam. 1:7, "Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction and of her miseries all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old, when her people fell into the hand of the enemy, and none did help her: the adversaries saw her, and did mock at her sabbaths." Now, we want to show that the "Ten Commandments," which includes the Sabbath, are embodied in the "Sinaic Covenant." Sabbatarians deny this. We refer the reader to a discussion between Eld. Crout of New York and Eld. Cornell of Battle Creek, Michigan, in the year 1869, both men of ability. On page 86 of said volume, (we quote) Eld. Cornell said, "All must agree that Moses used the word covenant in this text, Exod. 24:8, not as signifying the ten commandments, but the agreement made concerning them." (End quote.) Exod. 24:8 reads thus, "And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words." We quote also from a volume, "The Two Covenants" by J. N. Andrews, as follows, (quote) "We say that the first covenant was the solemn contract or agreement between God and the people of Israel concerning the law of God." (End quote.)

To be continued

Selected by Joseph Lavy



Thoughtfulness for others, generosity, modesty, and self-respect are the qualities which make a real gentleman or lady, as distinguished from the veneered article which commonly goes by that name. — Thomas Huxley.



## A HEAVENLY RAILROAD

Many times I go on the train to our Conference. The thought comes about a Heavenly Railroad. This one everyone must travel, which we know will end at the Station which is Heaven.

All must get on board or they will miss that Home, He has promised to all who will follow Him day by day while living in this old world. I am sure none want to miss that Beautiful Home. Dear ones, now is the time to get on board, we must not keep putting it off from day to day. Now is the day of Salvation. God has made and planned this railroad. He has the blueprint. The line was staked out by His own hands. He went to the cross of Calvary and paid the debt for our sins. He suffered so on that old cross to see that each one could be on board that train.

Are you on board? If not — why not? This road is a special one. He laid every rail in place. It is a perfect railroad. No sin can enter nor any thief can molest you for He has promised to never leave you if you are willing to follow Him all the way. You will find many grades and curves along the way, but He will guide you safely if you are only willing to follow. Some times this road seems to have some steep mountains but each can get across if you are willing to suffer a little. Many times your own loved ones will try to hinder you but you are told you must give up all and come and be His child.

Dear ones, it is sure worth it to be able to have a home in Heaven when this life has come to an end. We must fast and pray if we are able to get on that Heavenly railroad. He will get a ticket for us when we repent of all our sins and are baptized and have them washed away. This is a commandment He gave to each of us. Then we will receive the Holy Spirit and He will help keep us on that straight and narrow way.

This train never turns back, but we must be very careful we don't get off when a new passenger is let on board. If we do, Oh how sad it will be to have to go out again into this old world of sin without our Blessed Lord and His all-wise hand to guide us. Remember His Spirit does not always call you back.

This railroad is a straight and narrow way, leading only to Heaven. It will stop anywhere on the route, at any station, to take on board a passenger who has followed all the way that which is required of him.

Dear ones, can't I plead with you to stop and think for just a few minutes? You can gain much by getting on this train to the Heavenly Shore. I pray if you read this and are still out in this old world away from Christ you will pause and ask Christ to help you

get on board this Heavenly Road. You must be washed in His precious blood and have your sins forgiven, live for Christ and help others to follow Him. Then you can come on board for the run to the depot called Heaven.

No one can get on this road without the requirements being met which are laid out by Christ, Himself, to all alike. If you do, you can go to the station and a ticket is waiting to be picked up by you. Then you are on board and bound for the Promised Land.

Do you feel it is worth your time to see that you are able to go all the way? Christ is the Conductor and the train is driven by Faith and Love. Let us study His precious Word daily and pray for help to be always true to Him.

We know the saved of all ages have traveled on this great road. Sinner, won't you take passage for Heaven today. There is great danger in delay. Death may come and you would miss that beautiful life of being with Christ, our Lord, throughout Eternity.

Sister E. M. Alltus



Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.

Thomas A. Edison.



## NEWS ITEMS

### PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations." Psalms 100:4-5.

Lord willing, Bro. David Skiles will be the evangelist for our Revival Meeting, November 18 through 25. Lovefeast is to be on Saturday evening.

Please join us in our services, at this Thanksgiving time, throughout the week and on Saturday and Sunday.

Sister Edith Moss, Cor.

### CORRECTION

The Lord willing, the Lititz Revivals will be held November 11 through 25.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXII

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NO. 22

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## GREAT GOD OF NATIONS

Great God of nations, now to thee  
Our hymn of gratitude we raise;  
With humble heart and bending knee  
We offer thee our song of praise.

Thy name we bless, Almighty God,  
For all the kindness thou hast shown  
To this fair land the pilgrims trod —  
This land we fondly call our own.

Here Freedom spreads her banner wide,  
And casts her soft and hallowed ray;  
Here thou our fathers' steps didst guide  
In safety through their dangerous way.

We praise thee that the gospel's light  
Through all our land its radiance sheds,  
Dispels the shades of error's night,  
And heavenly blessings round us spreads.

Great God, preserve us in thy fear;  
In dangers still our Guardian be;  
O, spread thy truth's bright precepts here;  
Let all the people worship thee.

## THANKFULNESS

The Thanksgiving Season gives us an extra incentive to remember the things we should be thankful for all year. We can use this opportunity to further our Christian lives by increasing our thankfulness.

We forget that we have received far more than we deserve. In fact there is nothing that we actually deserve from God but all is given to us through His love. What He does not give to us directly He gives to us indirectly through others or through our God given strength and abilities.

We should be thankful for the tremendous advantage that we have by living in this greatly blessed land. We are favored with many freedoms and privileges that are unknown in most of the world. This freedom allows us to exercise our religious beliefs freely. This freedom allows those who do not make that choice to also live as they wish, however foolishly that course may appear. This freedom allows the separation of Church and State as dictated by the New Testament. We should be thankful the Church can exist as a free-will gathering of like-minded believers without being tied to the government's power. The government rules by force and fear while the Church rules by love and humble service.

The freedom of this land allows those who depend upon worldly political action to express themselves as they please. Those who believe and practice various philosophies are allowed to do so, as long as they do not harm others. For these freedoms and privileges we should be very thankful.

We also live in a prosperous land. Although we all may not have every desire of our material heart fulfilled, we all live so much better than those anywhere else where many live in the grip of

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

### NOVEMBER 15, 1984

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starvation and malnutrition. There are plagues, epidemics and famines in many widespread areas of the world, yet we have so much that we complain when we do not have all that we set our minds to. These and many other things we should be very thankful for. Yet these things are material and temporal. As enjoyable and desirable as all these things are, they are not the most important. The material and the temporal will only last for a short time.

We, of course, are thankful for our homes, families and friends. These relationships are very dear to us. And we are thankful for our memories. Memories not only give us a pleasant feeling of things past but also serve as instructors for us to improve our present and future living. They make us remember the consequences, good or bad, of our past actions and thus help us govern ourselves accordingly.

For all these various things and relationships we are and should be thankful. The greatest object of our thankfulness is summed up in Romans 8:1. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the spirit." The gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ should evoke our greatest thankfulness. It is precious because of the price God paid for it and it is eternal. Without it we are all under a condemnation more sure than that of a prisoner on death row. Men's attitudes change so the prisoner may escape his execution but God's does not change. Therefore our condemnation is sealed unless we avail ourselves of God's provision for averting it.

This is available only through Jesus Christ. We must be thankful that God was willing to send His Son as our hope of salvation and that Jesus was willing to carry out His Father's Will. Without this foundation for our salvation we could have no hope. For this gift of potential salvation we should be most thankful.

We should also be thankful that God does not treat us as mindless robots but gives us a choice in our lives' character and destiny. We must choose His plan of salvation for it to be implemented in our behalf. Also we should be thankful for the effort demanded on our part in our Christian lives. We are not left with nothing to do. We have a responsibility to keep ourselves in the pathway He would set us upon. We are to walk according to the Holy Spirit not by the wisdom, knowledge or desires of our flesh. We should be thankful that God has entrusted us with such a tremendous responsibility. We should show that thanks through our living for Him.

If you think you have nothing to be thankful for this Thanksgiving season, then look around you, look at yourself and look up to God. You have much to be thankful for. If you are a Christian be especially thankful you still have the opportunity. Then avail yourself of that opportunity so you can be truly thankful.



## LEST WE FORGET

"When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee... Lest when thou hast eaten and art full... thou forget the Lord thy God." (Read Deut. 8:10-14).

When we receive something, we know who the giver is, unless it is anonymous. Usually we are thankful for what is given to us, and we say so. If we are not thankful, there is a reason, and it may be because we feel we deserve it. True gratitude begins when 1) we recognize where the gift comes from, and 2) that we did nothing to merit the gift. When we earn something, it's not a gift, and we must remember that we cannot earn what God has for us.

God instructed the children of Israel, His people, to be sure to thank Him for their blessings. If they didn't, they would soon forget who the giver was. When they were so comfortable and full, they did forget many times, and God had to remind them many times. We think they were very ungrateful, but what about us?

In this land, we have eaten and we are full. But have we blessed God? We have a good land, but do we know who gave it to us? Far too many have forgotten God and are going their own way. We know they are not thankful, but what about those of us who claim to be God's people? God doesn't expect much from unbelievers, but He expects alot, and rightfully so, from us who are believers.

God has blessed us all in many ways and we should be grateful. Our daily needs are provided for us. We are blessed with families, friends, good health, and so forth. Even if we find ourselves in need or in distress, we can still find something to be thankful for. God sees to it that we are taken care of in good times and bad — do we appreciate it enough to say so? Or have we also forgotten where our blessings come from?

"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thess. 5:18. Whatever situation we find ourselves in, God expects us to have a thankful heart. A thankful heart is a contented heart. A thankful heart is an unselfish heart. A thankful heart is a generous heart. The list could go on because a thankful heart reaches out to others and is a giving heart.

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name." Psa. 100:4. Make thanksgiving your first thought, not your last one. Think "gratitude", not "give me more." Think "God has been good to me", not "I have earned all this." If you stop and think where your blessings come from, I believe you will be grateful. You will see that God really has been generous, and there is plenty of reason to be thankful.

There is something else we should be thankful for, and that is when God says "no". He saves us much grief by not giving us everything we want. If we always wanted the right things, there wouldn't be any problem, but we don't always know what is best. At times, our prayer requests are selfish and also foolish. If God granted all our requests, we'd certainly live to regret it.

God has given us much to be thankful for. There are many earthly blessings which we readily see, but those shouldn't occupy all our thoughts. Christ and His saving grace should be first in our hearts and thoughts. Our thankfulness to God should be expressed first for salvation. If we really want God's blessings, we need Christ within first. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." II Cor. 9:15.

We have a day set aside on which to especially thank God for our blessings, but we owe Him our thanks every day, not just once a year. As you consider all that God has blessed you with, do thank Him. He is waiting to hear from you.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

November 15, 1924

BE YE THANKFUL

B. E. Kesler

We have a wonderful country, and in it we enjoy both civil and religious liberty. We have a rich country, one of the most prosperous in all the world. We have had neither famine nor pestilence, nor any great disaster during the year. We have more blessings than we appreciate, and yet in spite of that we often complain because some little and unimportant thing goes wrong for us. We have more wealth than is for our good, and yet lament because the amount of it is not larger. And the great majority do not lament because they want the money for good uses, but because they want it to consume on their lusts. If it were only the worldly people, those who make no profession of loving or serving God, it would not be so bad; but the professed child of God is frequently as loud in his lamentations as the veriest worldling.

And this is all wrong. Our Father knows what we need, and he will supply us if we but depend on him, believe him, obey him. He has told us to be thankful. He has told us not to seek the wealth that perishes, but that which endures through this world and the next. That does not mean earthly treasure. We could hardly get along without a certain amount of that. But again we are told that

having food and raiment we should be content. And yet we are not. Why what do we want with more than we need in this world? Are we afraid of the future, afraid that God will not keep his promise to care for us?

Each year but adds to the reasons we have for being thankful to our Father. We may have had some misfortune, some losses; but if we stop and count the gains, the blessings, we shall see how many more there are of them and how much greater they are than the losses. The Lord never lets the worst happen to his children, but always the best, if we will but trust him and wait his own good time to see why he suffered certain things which we consider misfortune to come upon us. Looking back over our lives, how many of us are not able to see that what we at one time considered a great misfortune, was really a blessing?

"God moves in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform."

Be ye thankful. For what? Nay, rather, what have you that you should not be thankful for? If there is anything in your life that worries you, it is there because you have failed in your duty to God. And just here is where we need to stop and think. Instead of blaming the Lord for the unpleasant things which sometimes come into our lives, let us trace them back to the beginning, and there we shall see that most often, if not always, those things are there because of our own actions. We forget that we must reap what we sow. It is as true here as anywhere else in life. If we are really thankful from the heart for what comes to us, we shall receive other and greater blessings. This is the law of life; by it we must live, whether we will or not.

We need something of the spirit of the early Christians, who when they were called upon to suffer because they were followers of Jesus, thanked God that they were considered worthy to suffer for him. We have lost that faith, that love which relies wholly upon the Lord and believes implicitly, that, whatever he sends or allows to come upon us is the best thing that could come. And that is a great loss to the world. Isn't it worth while to strive to regain what we have lost just here? How much better we should feel and be, and how much more of a blessing we should be in the world if we had the faith that they had in those early days. Such faith compels others to believe as we do. But the weak, complaining faith, which is in reality no faith at all, repels rather than attracts unbelievers. Faith without trust is impossible.

Be ye thankful. At this season of the year we are prone to lay too much stress on the temporal blessings we have received. They are great, and for them we should fervently thank the Giver. But there are other and far greater blessings which, if rightly used, will con-



tinue throughout eternity: they are the spiritual. The temporal blessings we have for only a few short years here, but the spiritual we may have here and over there also. It all depends on us. They have been placed within our reach, and the conditions on which they may become ours are plainly stated. They are the true riches. Will we take them or will we leave them? It is the most important question in our lives, the one on which depends more than all the wealth and wisdom of Solomon.

Let us be thankful. Not merely now that the season is here; but every day, every hour which is ours here on the earth. And even then we could not sufficiently thank Him who has given us all things richly to enjoy. May he help us to have more faith and trust, and thankfulness.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "The Humpty-Dumpty Life"

Does your world seem to be falling apart? Are you unfulfilled in your Christian experience? Why is there so much conflict around us today? Unrest seems to be on every hand and we ask why this senseless, humpty-dumpty life exists.

Could the key to the answer to these questions be found in the second Psalm. "Why do the people imagine a vain thing?" This relates in the Old Testament sense to emptiness, futility, and confusion.

The mass media and the humanistic society around us have bombarded us with the sensational. We have the horoscope, Eastern mysticism, Cults, creative therapy and spiritual, social and philosophical confusion. We might feel a doubt whether we can have an impact and change anything in the world today. But, young people, indifference is totally inexcusable.

Because we live in a world of sin there is always going to be great influences exerted on you to lead you in a direction away from Jesus. Charismatic leaders and world personalities will constantly try to move you from the stable Christian experience to their confusion.

The mass media has produced a whole set of new philosophies in our contemporary society. A slick and sophisticated system is "taking counsel together" to exert pressures on you contrary to the Lord's ways. Fallible man has taken over the throne of the infallible God and error is rampant. Hostility to the Lord is vivid and open. It is no longer hidden.

Self sufficient man does not want to hear about the self-existent God. They will always have a determined opposition to God and

right. The society and leadership we have been revealing will not recognize God because it would require a total revolution in life-style.

Lucifer was a beautiful angel who had a superb position but it irritated him that he was not the "Most High." To be restricted in this part of his experience was more than he could tolerate so he decided to break the cords of obedience and try to become God himself. Man has done this ever since.

Even psychologists tell us that Christian values and morality are outdated and that Christ's principles are repressive. They suggest solutions of breaking all ties with the conservative Christian community. "Repressive" becomes their number one term against the Church.

Don't look for answers from misguided leaders of the world. Be refreshed in this downcast and depressive situation by taking on Christ's perspective for your life. God has severe judgment planned for those who would lead us away from Christ and the Church. The horrors of judgment will be poured out on those who are creating the despair of this age. Your only option is to live for Christ and make your attitudes and goals to be patterned after His perfect attributes. God does not lose control! You don't either! The self-exalted men of our society will be abased. Your humble spirit before Him will be blessed. Identify yourself totally with Christ. Live according to His status, His expectations, and His intentions for your life. This view from Christ's side, as you live securely tucked under His protective wings, yields a striking perspective. While chaos reigns on earth as the result of the rejection of God, yet you are seated in the heavens with quiet confidence. Pessimism need not rule your life in this "humpty-dumpty" world. Don't look down at the mud but look up to the stars. It is your privilege as a believer to maintain a peaceful perspective in all of this chaos.

Serve the Lord and rejoice! Submit to Him and be reverent and you CAN make an impact for Him in this world. Pray for a vital understanding of His truth and claim His promises for your life. Remain calm and committed to the Lord. I offer you a life of new dimensions, a freshness, and challenge in living totally for Jesus in these end times. Be aware of earth's turmoil but live in an attitude of heaven's splendor and live fearlessly. "Life can be beautiful" and truly blessed when you put all of your "trust in Him." (Ps. 2) Don't give up... look up, because your redemption draweth nigh.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## THERE IS A REASON FOR EVERYTHING

Our Father knows what's best for us,  
So why should we complain —  
We always want the sunshine,  
But He knows there must be rain —  
We love the sound of laughter  
And the merriment of cheer,  
But our hearts would lose their tenderness  
If we never shed a tear...  
Our Father tests us often  
With suffering and with sorrow,  
He tests us, not to punish us,  
But to help us meet Tomorrow...  
For growing trees are strengthened  
When they withstand the storm,  
And the sharp cut of the chisel  
Gives the marble grace and form...  
God never hurts us needlessly,  
And He never wastes our pain,  
For every loss He sends to us  
Is followed by rich gain...  
And when we count the blessings  
That God has so freely sent,  
We will find no cause for murmuring  
And no time to lament  
For Our Father loves His children,  
And to Him all things are plain,  
So He never sends us Pleasures  
When the Soul's Deep Need Is Pain.  
So whenever we are troubled,  
And when everything goes wrong  
It is just God working in us  
To make Our Spirits Strong.

- Selected by Sister Meriam Pletcher

## A LETTER TO THE DUNKARD CHURCHES IN AMERICA

"I know thy works and thy labor and thy patience and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles and are not and hast found them liars; And hast borne,... and hast labored and hast not fainted." And "I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith." Also, "I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and last to be more than the first."



"I know... that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing: and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear: and anoint thine eyes with eye salve, that thou mayest see."

Brothers and sisters, the previous words were taken from Revelation, chapters 2 and 3. It seems as though we all do our charity deeds and keep the benches warm on Sundays, and even remain true to our heritage. I believe this is all good and well, but it's not enough. I think we can be proud and thankful that our forefathers had enough determination and convictions to instill their faith in our hearts and lives. Now it is up to us to carry on and remain faithful.

God's word tells us that "as in the days of Noah so shall the coming of the Son of Man be." There was a very small remnant faithful then, and so shall it be again. The mind of mankind today is a disappointment to me. It seems to continually dwell on one of three things. These being; the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. In study of the human body, we find that the mind is a very intricate and complex computer. Man could never make a machine to match its capabilities, and yet we use just a very small percentage of it. It seems our minds are too full of trivial things to have time to study, or to teach our children. Our eyes need to be looking for opportunities to share the love of Christ with those round about us. It would be our prayer to see our children carry on those truths which we believe in, but if we don't live and carry on the teachings of Christ ourselves, we can't expect too much from our children.

Hebrews 12:13 says "And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way, but rather let it be healed." Consider the words of the apostle. The inspired Word of God says much in that one verse.

Let us ask ourselves, "Can those round about me tell that Christ lives within?" I pray that we would all be on fire for Christ, so that when that Day comes He will not spue us out of His mouth. Time may be shorter than we think. Are we ready? Do we live as if there is always a tomorrow? James tells us that life is but a vapor; here a little while and then gone. Brothers and sisters, if we would but consider the words that have been inspired by the precious Holy Spirit, I believe our very lives would change. People around us would see it, our children would see it. Let us be an example.

The Bible tells us that a true soldier does not entangle himself with the affairs of this life, so that he may keep his mind on the battle. When we get behind the wheel of a car on a stormy night, we keep our eyes on the road ahead so that we're prepared for dangers that might come upon us unawares. This we must do in our spiritual lives also. Let us not dare entangle our lives so that we would slip and fall in the battle for our very salvation. I know that we all desire a home in heaven. In our carnal lives, we pursue something to the uttermost that we really want. Are we doing all we can to reach our heavenly home? I dare say we need to examine our stand with Christ and become soldiers that are truly on fire for Him.

As we bring this article to a close, it would be our prayer that all the brethren would consider and ask God, "Just where do I stand in your army, Lord?" After we prayerfully seek that answer, I believe we'll see a need to get closer to the Lord. I Peter 1:17 says "Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:"

May God add His Blessings  
Brother David Snyder  
McClave, Colorado

## **SATURDAY, THE JEWISH SABBATH OR SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY, WHICH?**

William Root

Dear Reader, let us now hear what the Word of God says, Exodus 34:28, "And he was there (speaking of Moses), with the Lord forty days and forty nights; and he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments." Deut. 4:13, "And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone." Also Deut. 9:9, "When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant which the Lord made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water." That these Scriptures show the "Ten Commandments" are recorded in the "Sinaic Covenant," there is no question. Why then do Sabbatarians deny this? The writer of the Hebrews records in Heb. 9:1-4, "Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary. And after the second veil, the taber-

nacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aarons rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant."

After showing the old covenant was faulty, and the necessity of a new, a faultless covenant, the writer gives an itemized account of what was contained in that old covenant. He starts with "ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary;... tabernacle,... candlestick,... table and shewbread,... and the tables of the covenant." The texts we have quoted above, are too plain to need comment, showing the truth of our proposition that "The Sinaic Covenant included the Ten Commandments." Let us now turn to Josh. 7:11, "Israel hath sinned, and they have transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff." Achan violated the eighth commandment, and it is called "transgressing my covenant."

Also Israel in the time of Joshua bowed to and worshipped other gods; violating the first commandment. It is said, "Ye have transgressed the covenant of the Lord." A covenant includes a contract or agreement; but what is there in an agreement, or contract, unless it is associated with the matter agreed about, or upon? Israel's agreement was, "All that the Lord hath said we will do," this they made at Horeb. Yet, what is that agreement worth unless we have the laws and ordinances agreed upon? Therefore, we say, dear reader, the "Ten Commandments" were included in the covenant in Horeb.

Our next proposition is "The Sinaic Covenant was to cease or to be abolished." Turning now to Heb. 8:7-8 we read, "For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them (Israel), he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah." Christian friends, it would not be difficult to name a number of objectionable features in that old covenant, hence we see the wisdom of God in abolishing it. The old covenant was but the shadow; the new covenant the substance. Therefore, Paul says, "Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator," Gal. 3:19.

To further prove our proposition, we call your mind to the following Scriptures... Let us look further at the "Limited Dominion of the Law." Rom. 7:1-6, "Know ye not brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long



as he liveth? For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. Wherefore my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. But now are we delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter."

The Romans had become dead to the law, it had been abolished, just as we are to be dead to the world. No law hath power over a man after that it hath ceased or been abolished, just as is shown in the law of marriage, which the Apostle has shown in these verses. Our union with the old covenant law has been dissolved, our relation therefrom is severed. Israel was delivered from a law, "wherein they were held," that law being dead. The law that held them was the law of Moses, the Decalogue and the law of ceremonies. As they were once "baptized unto Moses," so are we now "baptized into Christ." Sabbatarians wrestle hard with this figure, this text. Hence, to make the facts further plain, let us look at it thus. First, Israel was joined to the law of Moses. Second, Israel joined with Christ crucified, cancels the law. Third, Israel becomes joined to the law of Christ. Hence now, true Israel is delivered from the law, that being dead wherein they were held.

To be continued

Selected by Joseph Lavy

## **BUILDING A HOUSE**

Matthew 7:21-29 is part of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus began by telling them of the great blessings in store for those who were willing to suffer. He told them that they were a light to the world, how to pray and to lay up treasures where moths will not destroy and how necessary it was to get to that place where their treasures were.

Whosoever that heard would be like a person who built a house. It must be on a good foundation. A sandy foundation would not be wise as it isn't a firm foundation and as soon as a storm would come the house would fall. It would not be able to stand the test.

When we start to build a house for our home, there are several

things we want to look into. First, a good location, not close to a junk yard or such. So many fail to look into these things. It is a very sad thing.

Finances also play a big part. When we build a natural house we have to pledge ourself. When we build a Spiritual house we have to pledge our life. We get so much from the Lord, we should want to give something in return.

When one hires a good contractor we expect him to build according to the specifications. The same in our Spiritual house. We need a good contractor, one who would build on the solid rock. There always comes a testing time, if not here, it will be in the judgment.

A Brother was building a house. His contractor wanted to get the roof on before the rain but he could not do it alone. He needed some help so some of the dear Brethren came in and helped. If we are serving the dear Lord He will help to supply our needs.

In this natural home we want something very durable. How about in the Spiritual sense? We should try to get something in the material that is durable. When the house is finished we want to make sure it has safe locks on the doors and windows. In our Spiritual house we want to keep out the evil spirits. Christ tells us to try the Spirits, be very careful that a lot of wrong literature does not come in and take the place of the Word of God.

We all know it takes a lot of living to make a home. A friend told me when Grandfather and Grandmother left their home for their Heavenly home, when she would go back to their home it was just a house.

Let us build our spiritual house upon the Rock the Lord Jesus Christ. Abraham was concerned about his Spiritual life and the Lord blessed him. Moses looked for a city that had a good foundation. If you are looking to that Eternal Place where there will be no moths or rust, it will stand the test. If we live the Christian life our house will stand. In this life we grow old and soon we have to give up our earthly home and all we own. We are looking for that day when we will hear Jesus say, I have one built not by hands but eternal in the Heavens. That to all His children will be a glorious Day.

Sister E. M Alltus



People do not care to give alms without some security for their money; and a wooden leg or a withered arm is a sort of draft upon heaven for those who choose to have their money placed to account there. — Mackenzie

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Like the bud of a new rose  
Some church-going people grow,  
When Jesus touches their heart  
Then great love for Him will flow.  
As flower buds grow larger  
So does the spiritual growth,  
When the lost have come to Christ  
We see the beauty of both.

No more do they walk in sin -  
For they are now "babes" of God,  
They will follow their Shepherd  
And go the path Jesus trod.  
How lovely, - And what fragrance  
Comes from a rose in full bloom --  
More beautiful the sinners  
When their soul has escaped doom.

The sincere "milk" of the truth  
Is what they are to be fed --  
And the path of righteousness  
Is the way they will be led.  
Then like the rose, they burst forth -  
(Sometimes they're tempest tossed,)  
But God's Word they have been fed  
Will keep them from being lost.

- Irene Stout

## NEWS ITEM

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Englewood Congregation enjoyed added blessings once more this year. The last two weeks of July, Bro. Paul Hartz labored to expound God's Word to us. We appreciated Sis. Mary being here also. May God's blessings be with our brother as he labors in other fields of labor to bring God's Word of truth to a dying, sinful people. No souls were added to the church at this time.

On October 27, we enjoyed a fall Lovefeast with forty-seven surrounding the tables. Visiting brethren were: Bro. Dean St. John, Bro. Edward Johnson, Bro. William Carpenter and Bro. David Ebling. We appreciated all the brethren and sisters from Kansas, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan who came to be with us on this occasion. God bless each one for coming. Surely, "Our cups are full and running over!"

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.



## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR DECEMBER 1984

### ON THE EARTH

Memory Verse: Matt. 5:5

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

Sat. 1 - Matt. 5:1-12

Memory Verse: Matt. 10:34

"Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword."

Sun. 2 - Matt. 10:1-42

Mon. 3 - Matt. 13:1-17

Tues. 4 - Matt. 16:1-20

Wed. 5 - Matt. 18:1-20

Thurs. 6 - Matt. 23:1-37

Fri. 7 - Matt. 25:1-30

Sat. 8 - Mark 4:1-34

Memory Verse: Mark 4:28-29

"For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come."

Sun. 9 - Mark 9:1-10

Mon. 10 - Luke 2:1-20

Tues. 11 - Luke 5:12-39

Wed. 12 - Luke 6:20-49

Thurs. 13 - Luke 12:42-59

Fri. 14 - Luke 18:1-43

Sat. 15 - Luke 21:1-38

Memory Verse: Luke 21:25-26

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for

looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

Sun. 16 - Luke 23:1-46

Mon. 17 - Luke 24:1-26

Tues. 18 - John 3:22-36

Wed. 19 - John 12:23-50

Thurs. 20 - John 17:1-26

Fri. 21 - Acts 8:26-40

Sat. 22 - Acts 9:1-22

Memory Verse: John 3:31

"He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all."

Sun. 23 - Acts 10:1-48

Mon. 24 - Acts 22:1-30

Tues. 25 - Rom. 9:1-33

Wed. 26 - I Cor. 10:1-33

Thurs. 27 - II Tim. 2:1-26

Fri. 28 - Heb. 6:1-20

Sat. 29 - Rev. 7:1-17

Memory Verse: Rev. 14:6

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."

Sun. 30 - Rev. 20:1-15

Mon. 31 - Rev. 21:1-27

Memory Verse: Rev. 21:1

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea."

Lester Fisher  
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Covington, OH 45318

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 23

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## THE CLEANSING WAVE

Oh, now I see the crimson wave,  
The fountain deep and wide;  
Jesus, my Lord, mighty to save,  
Points to His wounded side.

I see the new creation rise,  
I hear the speaking blood;  
It speaks! polluted nature dies —  
Sinks 'neath the crimson flood.

I rise to walk in heav'n's own light,  
Above the world and sin;  
With hearts made pure and garments white,  
And Christ enthroned within.

Amazing grace! 'tis heav'n below,  
To feel the blood applied;  
And Jesus, only Jesus knew,  
My Jesus crucified.

- Phoebe Palmer

## THE SWEET AND THE BITTER

John, the Revelator, was given a book that he must eat. To induce him to eat such an unlikely item he was told that in his mouth it would be sweet although in his stomach it would be bitter. It would be easy enough to eat as the sweetness would be enticing, but the stomach would suffer for it later.

Often we suffer from our poor eating habits. We consume quickly and ravenously foods that are too sweet or too salty for our bodies' well being. Because they taste so good we can become glutinous. Later we suffer. Indigestion or even more serious ills may vainly protest our intake of such food. If this style of eating becomes a habit, the extra calories from the sweets may lead to more general and serious life-threatening diseases. The high salt intake may also lead to serious illness and affliction. So the first taste may seem so good and alluring but the end may not be very sweet.

All that's sweet at the beginning may not end up that way. John found it to be true with his meal. While his present situation viewing the glories and powers of Heaven was enjoyable, still there remained some harsh prophecies and descriptions to be given. Surely, John would have preferred telling of future bliss but much of that was ordered to be sealed. Instead he had to tell of terrible events and judgments yet to come.

The sweet and the bitter often affect our personal relationships. Friendships and even romances that seemed so sweet at the beginning can become very bitter. Where love is left to diminish and die, hatred can rise up and bring bitterness. When the giving of a friendship or romance becomes one-sided, then that unevenness will cause a jealousy and bitterness to arise. Our friendships must

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be mutual and love continue to flow unhindered by either one.

The sweet and the bitter can also be applied to our financial and material affairs. With the easy credit offered these days through charge cards and charge accounts it is easy for a consumer to soon find himself mired in deep debt. It is far easier to sign a form or give a plastic card than to pay hard cash. Consequently the sweetness of easy availability may soon turn into the bitterness of being overextended. The possession of many material things may seem to make life sweeter and more enjoyable but when the problem of overextended credit or living beyond one's means is faced there will be bitterness instead.

There are many areas of life where what appears to be sweetness at the beginning may turn to bitterness before too long. Satan is very cunning with his enticements leading us into sin. He does not paint sin to look like sin but as something very pleasant and desirable. He makes sin to seem sweet but does not show its true bitter consequences.

When Satan, the serpent, appeared to Eve in the Garden of Eden, he did not tell her the true consequences of her disobedience. He told her she would be as God knowing good and evil. He did not tell her that sin would separate her from God. He did not tell her that the wages of sin would be death, both physically and Spiritually. That forbidden fruit was so enticing. Undoubtedly it was very sweet in her mouth but how terribly bitter it became. The bitterness of her sin was not soon allayed, as in the years to come she had to bear not only the grief of being driven from the Garden but also the grief of having one son murder the other because of jealousy wrought by sin growing out of her sin.

Samson certainly did not consider the future bitterness that would come from his association with the Philistines. By taking a wife from amongst the Philistines he thought of sweetness but it did not turn out that way for he had violated his parents wishes and God's command. His adulterous relationship of Delilah also seemed to offer sweetness, but in the end cost him his strength and eventually his life. He found bitterness where Satan promised him sweetness. This is the same result of sin today. Adultery and fornication promise a sweet sensuality but bitterness soon becomes the result. What appeared so pleasureable turned into heartache. Where physical love was promised, hatred showed itself.

David could well agree that there is only bitterness to be found in adultery. He paid a great price for his sin. Bathsheba was not faultless in this affair, as her immodesty was the apparent spark that enticed David to his deed that ended so differently from their anticipation. The price of immodesty well be high and unpleasant.

While it seems so fashionable and alluring, there will be a bitter price to pay.

Any other sin that seems so sweet at the beginning will eventually bring forth a bitter harvest. What seems so sweet and easy and pleasurable will bring suffering, debasement and dishonor.

We need to be aware of the consequences of our sins. Satan is a liar. He will never tell us where sin will lead us. Sin may seem very sweet at first but when it has finished its course it will be anything but sweet. Be careful!

## **A SMILE IS**

A smile is a greeting. When you greet someone with a smile, you are saying, "I'm glad to see you." Your smile makes that person feel welcome in your presence, and says to others that you care enough about them to be pleasant. Your smile attracts people to you, whereas a scowl or a frown turns them away. Even your own face appreciates your smile, as it takes fewer muscles to smile than to frown.

A smile has several other meanings also. One meaning given in the dictionary is "a contraction of the features expressive of pleasure, moderate joy, approval or kindness." The opposite of a smile is a frown or a sad expression. We smile when we are pleased and we smile when we are happy. We smile when we approve of something and a smile can also express kindness. Amazing, isn't it, that some mere muscle contractions can reveal so much?

The Bible doesn't say anything about Jesus smiling, but we can be sure He did. His smile no doubt showed love, mercy and compassion, revealing His concern for those around Him. Jesus was glad to see those who came to Him for help, and to receive His teachings. It gave Him joy to see their good response, and I'm sure Jesus smiled many times.

There were many times when Jesus was sad, too, like when Lazarus died. Jesus wept over Jerusalem, and I'm sure He looked sadly at Peter after he had denied Him. But this sadness was accompanied by great compassion. If we are saddened by something and cannot smile, we can yet be considerate of others as Jesus was, and not turn people away with unkindness.

"So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad." I Sam. 1:18. Hannah had a problem and was in great distress. Not only could she not smile, but she couldn't eat either. She greatly desired a child, and had to endure much at the hands of her husband's other wife. Her husband's efforts to console her failed, but God did not fail her. As soon as she received assurance that her prayer was heard, it showed on her face. Like-

wise our expression should reveal our faith in God's care.

The Bible says there is a time to weep, and a time to laugh. (Ecc. 3:4) We all know this, as we have times when we are happy, and others when we feel sad. Whatever feeling we express, let it be sincere. A smile can be deceitful, projecting something we don't feel. So also can our weeping be deceitful, if we are just pretending to be sad or in sympathy with someone.

"A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance." Prov. 15:13a. If you want to have a smile that is a true smile, it must begin on the inside — in your heart. If your heart is not in the right condition, your smile won't be either. A merry heart is one which has something to rejoice over, and this joy spills over to the outside. This joy produces a cheerful countenance — a smiling face — and such a smile lifts everyone's spirits.

A smile can show elation over victory (when did you see a sad winner?). Sometimes we even smile when we are sad. A smile can be deceitful, just a cover-up for one's true feelings. But, the best smile is an encouraging one, especially to someone who has none to give. Your smile may be the only encouragement that person gets, and is like a lifeline to one who is drowning in his troubles. Your smile tells that person that you care. It says, "I know you are having a rough time, but keep trying. You have my support." A warm, loving smile is one of the best gifts you can give and it doesn't cost you a cent. Give one of yours, won't you?

A smile can be many things to many people — what is it to you?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **SERVING GOD WITH ENTHUSIASM**

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Psalms 100:2. Serving God should be a joyful experience! The second fruit of the Spirit is joy (Galatians 5:22). Yet how many Christians do we know who are going around just bubbling over with joy?

Many times the people we're dealing with are not easy to serve, let alone serve with enthusiasm. A boss may bark out orders that are nearly impossible to carry out. Customers often make unreasonable demands. People these days are demanding their rights. When we walk downtown or in a shopping mall, some folks coming toward us either look at the sidewalk or up at the sky, or they look straight ahead right past us, but not at us. They don't care about us and don't want to be bothered with our cares. Often when someone asks, "How are you doing?" it is a mere formality rather than a sincere desire to learn about our cares in life. Many seem



to be doing their own thing, and woe unto the unfortunate person who interrupts!

Christian people are not only affected each day by the kind of people described above, but are often caught up in the same kind of attitude. We are so busy and there are so few minutes and life becomes one mad rush. How can we escape being calloused, unfeeling, and cold?

### 1. ASSUME A SMILE

One thing we observe about an enthusiastic person is that he smiles a lot. His face radiates joy and gladness. Maybe our face will not radiate such good feelings, but we need to make a start somewhere.

Get up in the morning and smile at the person in the mirror. Practice smiling until it looks right. We all look better when we smile! Smile at your wife or husband. Smile at your children. Smile at the dog. Go through the day with a smile on your lips. After you wear a smile for a while, you'll find that you will feel like smiling.

When you see someone who is in need of a smile, give him one of yours. It can be an interesting challenge to see how many people you can get to smile back at you in a day's time. Cheerfulness rubs off on people. Many times you'll be able to lift the spirits of the one to whom you smile.

Smile while you are doing dishes. Smile when taking out the garbage. Smile when doing a difficult task for a cranky boss. Smile in church. Smile in the car, at home, in the store, and at work. Assuming a genuine smile will aid in preparation for the next step toward enthusiasm.

### 2. REMEMBER WHO IS BEING SERVED.

We need to constantly remind ourselves that we're serving God. If we truly love God as we should, anything done for Him will be done with joy and enthusiasm. And the Bible tells us, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10). Doing a difficult task for the Lord is easier than doing it for a grumpy boss.

God is always with us. We can be joyful in the realization that God is with us every minute of each day. With such knowledge, it's easy to go about our daily duties with a smile on our lips and with joy in our hearts. God loves us. Why shouldn't we love Him back? We are living this life for the Lord! He loves us and we love Him.

Let's take a lesson from a boy who wants to impress a girl. It's his first date with her, and he really cares about making a good impression. Notice how he puts his best foot forward and does it with enthusiasm!

When the big day comes, he takes a thorough shower — not just

washing his hands to the wrists. He doesn't even complain about the need for a shower. He shaves carefully to make sure no stray whiskers are observable. Next he combs, slowly. Every single hair must be exactly in place. Then comes the surprise of the day — he brushes his teeth thoroughly. He applies deodorant and aftershave, and dresses up in his finest clean clothes. He even shines his own shoes!

After careful attention to himself, the somewhat nervous but very excited boy gets into his car which has been washed, vacuumed, and maybe even waxed. He leaves early and drives around the block six times so he can pull into the drive where his date lives right on the minute! He re-checks his hair — yet never cared before.

During their time together, the young man watches his grammar and is on his very best behavior — and he loves it. It's not because he has to, but because he wants to!

Oh, that we may serve our God with as much enthusiasm! The relationship between God and us is a love affair. He loves us and we love Him. So let us serve Him with all of our ability, and do it with joy and enthusiasm!

Brother Robert Lehigh

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

December 1, 1924

### CAMPAIGN — FOR PRESIDENT OR FOR CHRIST - WHICH

Elizabeth Erb

Another presidential campaign has gone down into history. The strenuous efforts, the earnest persuasions for candidacy live only in memory. Results are yet to be tested and tried. Those who are nearing the three score and ten milestone, need not be over observing to note many changes in the attitude some of our brethren take to worldly campaigns. Well do we remember the time when brethren who were wrought upon to ballot their convictions, were admonished to avoid all hilarious revelry of the time. Not so now. Brethren sound their preference from day to day, from the public thoroughfare, to the once sacred pulpit. How about this contrast? If those pioneer brethren were right, then we are going wrong. If we are right, they were wrong.

Who will dare say those brethren were wrong? Those men, men who labored by the sweat of their brow to provide food and raiment for their families, who carried the word of God in their pockets daily, that they might study their sermons at every opportunity available, who traveled miles on foot or horseback, sometimes fording or

ferrying dangerous streams, and in mid-winter facing severe snowstorms, to give the Gospel message to an eager people? Those brethren cast their ballots for Christ. They led their families and others into the church. God blessed their earnest efforts, caused the church to grow and prosper, and left it to us as a rich heritage.

A minister of this day, one who studies hard to give his congregation the very best, in one of his sermons prior to the June primaries, first read the names of those suitable for his audience to vote for, thereby causing the real essence of his sermon to become hidden in the prelude. Another gave a splendid sermon on the "Test of Discipleship", but it was so seasoned with influence to ballot for a worldly kingdom that the soul saving power was almost lost. Another gave a fine sermon on "What Lack I Yet?", bringing to our minds many things for serious thought, when at the close of the service, others brought in our late campaign and the names suitable for ballot, thus diverting our thoughts from that great question.

Worldly kingdoms have their place in the world, but not in the pulpit. Christ said, "My kingdom is not of this world." He went into the synagogue and taught; from the impressions made we can know he did not teach for worldly office. From the answers Felix and Agrippa made, we can know Paul taught of righteousness, temperance and judgment to come. When Philip joined a traveler on his way and found him reading the prophecies concerning Christ, he began at that scripture and taught him Jesus.

Our old brethren, heralds of the gospel in all simplicity and purity, were loved and respected for their nonconforming and non-resisting principles. Some claim we should let the world know where we stand on some of the live issues of the day. A few weeks enthusiasm may stir sentiment for a worldly campaign, but an earnest, unwavering, spirit-filled life time is a fine ballot for Christ. The brother who has lived a good Christian life, has not used tobacco in any form, I care not whether he be farmer, mechanic or merchant, has given to all in his employ, and the world around him, his ballot against tobacco. The sister who rears her family without harmful drinks in the home at any time is teaching her sentiment on temperance to all who may cross her threshold.

O brethren and sisters, is it not high time we awake to a realization we are drifting worldward step by step? Let us renew our covenant with God, and vote for Jesus Christ, not once in four years, or once a year, but every day of our lives. Let us vote for him in our conversation, our dealings, our appearance; and our purse, and in every way.



## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "Coping"

We are living in a stress ridden society. Headaches are a common complaint. We can blame a lot of things: tobacco smoke, smog, and so forth, but most are emotionally induced. Stress causes the body to produce adrenalin which makes more blood circulate in the brain. In turn, the brain swells inside the skull and pressure is the result.

Now I understand that some degree of stress is unavoidable today. The death of a spouse would equal 100 units of a stress scale and Christmas equals 12 units.

David knew something about life shaking experiences. Yet, he was able to write in Psalm 46, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." This statement is exactly the opposite of what our human instinct tells us. It says "run" and the Lord says, "Be still."

To have composure is pretty easy when there is nothing to "decompose" you. But to be able to react to the unexpected in God's way is the challenge. To be intuitive in being still in the Lord's presence should be the goal.

Being still just to meditate some mysterious question or to contemplate something humanistic is not the answer. You must concentrate that stillness on your confidence in God. God must be such a personal friend and intimate confidant you will be able to feel His calmness to its fullness.

Remember, intimacy develops with time and experience. You don't have that feeling about someone in the beginning of a relationship. Learn personally about God's refuge, His strength, His very present help. To do this you must accept fully His teachings and be willing to trust yourself to what you have accepted. You need to learn to seek His protecting and preserving grace continually. This will even out the valleys and the peaks. Understand that He will act on your behalf if you are fully leaning on Him and you will sense His practical every-moment refuge quality. You will also get to know Him more fully. Many people never deepen their knowledge of God because they do not give the Lord the opportunity to show what He can do when things get difficult.

Your friends will not always stick with you in the time of trouble. When all is well, they will be there. But when things start to come apart at the seams, they will suddenly become conspicuous by their absence. This will never happen to your BEST FRIEND, the Lord Jesus. He will be very present help in your troubles.

If it is true that God is a refuge, it is equally true that those who

move into Him have nothing to fear. You can say with assurance, then, "Therefore will not we fear though the earth be removed." You must move, through maturity, from the stage of acceptance of Jesus to the point of total dependence and trust in Him. Getting right theology from your head to your heart so that it affects the flow of blood from the heart to the head is the key to dealing with much of the emotional stress to which you are and will be subjected. You must have a belief that really believes, a faith that really expects and a trust that really anticipates.

If you are experiencing some sleepless nights, and I know that it happens to young people as well as older folks, you have not yet let the Lord indwell you in the fullness of His Spirit. He must be your strength, your stronghold, and your sufficiency. You can relax in the Lord and respond to what you know of Him.

Talk to Him in a personal way, depend on Him completely and you will feel the stress leave and you'll become relaxed in anticipation of His blessing.

The history of God's dealings with His people is of immense value to you if you are living under stress. Review the Word and be built up in it. Read the incidents of the Old Testament in which God showed Himself "strong in behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him." Read the Acts of the Apostles and enjoy the things that He did to establish and build a Church despite seemingly insurmountable odds.

Praise is another key to the reduction of stress. Lift your head and your voice to the Lord and feel the uplifting value of a "Hallelujah!" Review what He has done and relate Him to your stresses... and see His presence reign in your heart.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## THE MASTER IS COMING

John 11:19-28. Many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary to comfort them concerning their brother. As soon as Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary stayed in the house.

She told Jesus if He had been there her brother would not have died. "I know even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee." Jesus told her that her brother would rise again. Martha knew he would rise again in the resurrection of the last day. Here Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. If any man believeth on me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."

She went and called her sister Mary and told her the Master

was there and called for her. Jesus had not come to their home but was where Martha had met Him. Mary followed her sister. The Jews thought she was going to the grave to weep. When Mary saw Jesus she fell at His feet, saying, "Lord if thou hast been here my brother would not have died."

Oh, the wonderful faith they had in Jesus. Do we have that faith today? Jesus had wonderful fellowship with this wonderful family. I wonder, today, do we have this fellowship with our Brethren and Sisters? I wonder if Jesus would come to our home would we go call our neighbors, brothers, sisters, sons and all we know, so they could see Jesus. I wonder what an influence it would have on them.

Here we find Jesus at the tomb weeping. Today, Jesus must be weeping as He looks down on this old world. He told them to take away the stone. How many stones do we have that are in our way, so we cannot follow in the way He has given us to follow? Jesus is the only one who can remove the stones. Will we give Him a chance? The sisters seemed to not understand, but He said if they believed they would see the glory. He knew that they believed in Him but for the people standing by, Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." And he came forth.

Often we have heard Jesus as He calleth us to come out from sin, do we always hearken? Let us help take the chains that bind some from making a full surrender.

Hannah wanted a son and the Lord remembered her and she bare a son called Samuel. She promised the Lord if she had a son she was willing to give him to the Lord. She fulfilled her vow taking him to the temple and dedicating him to the Lord. We, as parents, should be a dedicated people of the Lord Jesus Christ, if we want our children to follow Jesus. The Word of the Lord is precious. It should be read in every home.

If we follow the Lord and what He would have us do, we are sure to have a home in Heaven. Let us like Paul, make our calling and election sure. Let us fight that good fight of faith. We have no vision on eternity, no hold on time.

Jesus raised the dead, healed the blind, made the lame to walk. When Jesus was on the way to Jericho a blind man heard that Jesus was passing by, he cried, "Thou son of David, have mercy on me." He cried for mercy. He did not plead for justice, so Jesus heard that cry. He had him brought to Him. This is a lesson for us today. We should bring lost souls to Jesus. Here are some precious words, "Be of good comfort, he calleth for thee." When the blind man knew Jesus wanted him to come to Him he layed aside his garment. We today must lay aside the things that hinder us from a



full surrender to the Lord who died for us. Jesus said, "Go thy way, thy faith has made thee whole." He immediately followed Him all the way. We must answer His call and get ready for our Home over there. He probably has called you many times but only when you answer do you receive the blessing.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## **SATURDAY THE JEWISH SABBATH, OR SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY, WHICH?**

William Root

Our next proposition is, "The Ten Commandments were to be done away." The law was not to be destroyed, but it was to be fulfilled. Jesus said, Matthew 5:17, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy but to fulfill."

As shown in our last article, the Sinaic covenant, which contained the "Ten Commandments," was to cease, be abolished, set aside, for the new law under the Gospel. Hence the "Ten Commandments" were to be done away. The Apostle Paul in writing to Corinth gives us the following, II Cor. 3:7-11, "But if the ministration of death written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses of the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away." This means that the thing written "the ministration of death" was "glorious."

"How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious?" Meaning that which should remain. "For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth. For if that which is done away (the Law and the Commandments) was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious." Meaning the Gospel.

The word "ministration" means service or agency. That the Ten Commandments were the ministration referred to, is evident, for they were the only ministration or service ever written on stones. It was a ministration of death, because the law of Moses, including the Decalogue, had no grace, no favor, was purely a ministration of condemnation, of death. Even in the sacrifices there was only a remembrance of sin. "Life and immortality has been brought to light through the Gospel." The ministration of the Spirit is the Gospel, "for my words (says Christ) are spirit and they are life."

It, therefore, was Gospel, good news, for the apostle to pen for the Corinthians, and us; that the ministration of condemnation and death, given at Sinai, which imparted so much fear and terror, had been abolished; that the ministration of the Spirit, the Gospel, remained. While the "Ten Commandments," as they were written in the law, were to be done away, to cease or be abolished, yet Christ fulfilled the law by bringing over into the Gospel, in Spirit nine of those "Ten Commandments" in other formation, but the fourth commandment, "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy" is not mentioned in the Gospel.

Please note the Ten Commandments as compared in the Old and New Testament: The Ten Commandments of the Old Testament: (1) "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Exod. 20:3. (2) "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them." Exod. 20:4-5. (3) "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." Exod. 20:7. (4) "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." Exod. 20:8. (5) "Honor thy father and thy mother." Exod. 20:12. (6) "Thou shalt not kill." Exod. 2:13. (7) "Thou shalt not commit adultery." (8) "Thou shalt not steal." Exod. 20:15. (9) "Thou shalt not bare false witness." Exod. 20:16. (10) "Thou shalt not covet." Exod. 20:17.

The Ten Commandments of the New Testament: (1) "Worship God," Rev. 22:9. (2) "Little children, keep yourselves from idols," I John 5:21. (3) "I say unto you, Swear not at all;... but let your communication be, Yea, yea, Nay, nay." Matt. 5:34-37. (4) "The seventh day sabbath was not taught after Christ's resurrection." (5) "Children obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right." Eph. 6:1. (6) "Thou shalt not kill," Rom. 13:9. (7) "Neither fornicators, nor idolators, nor adulterers... shall inherit the kingdom of God," I Cor. 6:9-10. (8) "Steal no more," Eph. 4:28. (9) "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor." Eph. 4:25. (10) "Covetousness, let it not be once named among you." Eph. 5:3.

The writer will perhaps discuss these commandments farther along in these writings, so will leave them for the present. Sabbatarians tell us, "It was the glory of the face of Moses that was done away." This is unthinkable. Think of the Apostles writing to the Corinthians for their encouragement, that the glory of the face of Moses, exhibited at Sinai's blazing summit, had been done away fifteen centuries after the venerated patriarch had been dead.

The facts are, the glory was a divine, a heavenly glory. That glory never has been done away, and it never will be. It may be transferred, but will always remain. The redeemed will be clad in that glory. Again, it was further good news for the apostle to tell his brethren

as he did in Heb. 12:18-24, "For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: (for they could not endure that which was commanded, and if so much as a beast touched the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:) But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels. To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel."

When the apostle tells those ancient Hebrews: "Ye are not come to the mount that might be touched," and so forth he does not mean the literal mount, for that would be no news to them; they well knew that. Besides, the terror he describes had ceased long ago; hence, we believe he meant, they are not come to the law delivered on that occasion, which we have seen clearly, included the "Ten Commandments." The apostle has given us, the gladsome news, that we are not under the old law, given at Sinai; but are under the Gospel, have come to the loving Jesus, the Mediator of the New Covenant. The scene at Sinai was one of fear and dread; even Moses himself said, "I exceedingly fear and quake." "For they could not endure that which was commanded." That this had special allusion to the Decalogue is clear. Who could endure the manner of keeping the ancient Sabbath? Who could endure the severe penalty of its violated law? Who, we say who? Let Sabbatarians answer.

- To be continued

Selected by Joseph Lavy



### CAMEL RIDER'S CALL

When the caravans in the desert are in want of water, they are accustomed to send a camel with its rider some distance in advance. Then, after a time, follows another, and then at a short interval another. As soon as the first man finds water, almost before he stoops down to drink, he shouts aloud, "Come!" The next man hearing the call repeats it, "Come!" The nearest man again takes up the call "Come!" until the surrounding desert echoes with the word "Come."



## OBITUARY

### RUBY SOWERS

Sis. Ruby Sowers, 63, passed away at the Washington County Hospital, Hagerstown, Maryland, September 25, 1984, after a six week long illness in her home.

Born in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, June 15, 1921, she was the daughter of the late Jesse J. and Marjorie C. (Brown) Brown.

She was a faithful member of the Waynesboro Congregation and taught the children's Sunday School class for many years. She also helped her companion faithfully as a Deacon's wife. She will long be remembered for her cheerful, friendly personality.

Surviving are her husband, Charles W. Sowers, Smithburg, Maryland, five daughters, Alice Bross, Myerstown, Pennsylvania; Wilma Eberly, Smithsburg, Maryland; Karen Johns, Paradise, Pennsylvania; Becky Manns, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania and Janice Sowers, Smithburg, Maryland; ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Five sisters and a brother also survive.

Funeral services were held at the Waynesboro Dunkard Brethren Church, September 28, 1984, by Elder Jacob Ness, assisted by Elder Frank Shaffer. Burial was in the Cedar Lawn Memorial Park in Hagerstown, Maryland.

The family wishes to express thanks and appreciation to all for the prayers, cards, visits, and thoughtful deeds to Mother during her illness and to us in our bereavement.

The Family of Ruby Sowers

## NEWS ITEM

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

We, here at Grandview Church enjoyed a one week revival from September 9 through September 16, with Bro. Dennis St. John of Bryan, Ohio, as our minister. We were so glad for the Dear Ones coming from a distance to worship with us.

As we are few in number we desire an interest in your prayers.

We were happy to have Sis. Donna and little girls to be with us also. May God bless each and every one is our prayer.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.



The only thing on earth a man can absolutely gain is heaven.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 24

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## CHRISTMAS OR XMAS

Oh! Why leave the Christ out of Christmas?  
Why substitute X for His name?  
There is naught else on earth or in Heaven  
Can ever make Christmas the same.

Be it thoughtlessness, hate or indifference,  
By the fault I grieve and offend;  
When I leave the Christ out of Christmas  
I'm slighting my very best friend.

When I leave the Christ out of Christmas,  
In vain is my holiday mirth;  
For the Christ, God's gift to His children  
Is the Christ who brought Christmas to earth.

God forgive me the thoughtless omission,  
I would not that Christ should depart;  
Not only the Christ at the yuletide;  
But all of the year in my heart.

- Author Unknown

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein



## AND ON EARTH, PEACE

Peace has been on the minds of men throughout history. Yet for all the hopes of peace there has been and still is a great lack of peace. In fact peace is perhaps further from actuality now than at other times.

The lack of peace between men, as individuals, nations and political blocs is related to the lack of peace within men. They lack peace within because they are not at peace with God.

The announcement of the angels gave men the hope of peace that they did not have before. Through the One born in Bethlehem they could have internal and external peace because they could have peace with God. Men could never be at peace with God as long as they failed to recognize and resolve the sin question in each of their lives. Their sins could not be cleared before God without a sacrifice. Repeated animal sacrifices could never cleanse them. The angels could speak of peace because they announced the birth of Jesus who was the sacrifice acceptable unto God because He was without sin.

The angels could well envision peace on the earth because of His birth. Yet, how few, over the centuries, have accepted that perfect gift of God. They have, instead, tried to secure peace by their own means. Some have thought to secure peace by compromise, vacillation, and concession. Others have thought through strength and number of arms or posture, they could secure peace. But all of these ways will fail for they do not include the One saluted by the angels as the Giver of Peace.

Since there is a lack of peace on the earth today, was His coming in vain? By looking on the outward appearance it might seem so. His appearance was not vain because God has said so

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through His Word. There is recorded the message God has intended for all men to read and act upon. As the Heavenly Host appeared to the shepherds they were given these words to speak. God does not lie, therefore these words must be as true as any other fact recorded there. This Son must be the means of peace on earth.

His coming therefore could not be in vain. Those who lived while He ministered upon the earth would know it was not in vain. As He healed the sick, cast out evil spirits and preached the Gospel, there were a few who gladly received Him although most rejected Him. Those who were recipients of His healing power would never say it was in vain. Although all who were near Him or touched Him or even received a miracle from Him did not believe or follow Him, still there were those who had peace because He came.

The relatively few who have received Him since His birth can also say that it was not in vain, for they could find peace with God even in very difficult times of persecution. Much good has been accomplished by those who have lived out lives built upon that peace He brought.

Whenever people have been at peace with God and within, they have been able to accomplish many good things. From this peace has come medical, educational and missionary advances. Without the stimulation of this peace and God's love, these would not have been possible. People without these godly traits think only of themselves and not of others. Following Jesus' example, men, who have accepted Him, can also give themselves so others may be bettered physically, mentally and Spiritually. His coming would never be in vain for them.

Even today in a world that is seemingly a stranger to peace, this season of the year will for a few days produce an uneasy peace among men usually opposed to each other. Political enemies even military enemies will call a truce for a few days or hours. Many dollars and hours are donated to various charitable causes. Although most do not understand the meaning of His coming, still there is a fascination that makes a temporary change in many. Surely they would not say it was in vain that He came, nor would those who receive help at this time.

Whether His coming was in vain or not is not really important to us as far as the past is concerned. The important question about His Coming is whether we as individuals have accepted Him. Only through Him can we have peace with God, peace within and peace among men. As you contemplate this season of His Coming, have you accepted Him? Do you have the peace the angels announced?

## BORN TO DIE

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:10-14.

What comes to your mind when the birth of Christ is mentioned? The manger? The shepherds? The wise men? Joseph and Mary going to Bethlehem? Many things could come to mind, most of them the obvious ones. The thoughts of God's Son being born on this earth in such a quaint setting may stir our hearts. But, if this captures all our attention, we will miss the whole point of His birth.

In today's society, many people know where and how Jesus was born, but they have lost sight of why. They know He was born into a Jewish family, just as God said His Son would be. Many other prophecies about Jesus' birth were fulfilled exactly, and we can read of them in the Bible. Other prophecies were fulfilled when Jesus died on the Cross, and later was resurrected. Every aspect of His time on earth was special, not just a coincidence, but let's think right now about His birth.

Jesus is the only one who has ever been born to die. We will all die eventually (or be changed at His coming), but we were not born specifically to die. You may wonder why anyone would be born to die, and especially, why Jesus, God's Son, and not someone else. God directed it to be so for one special reason — Jesus was born to die that we might live.

Jesus is the only one who was qualified to become our Savior. He said, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25) and no one else can make that claim. He also said, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10. Very plainly stated, is it not? Jesus had no other purpose in coming to this earth except to provide for our salvation, and He did exactly that.

"For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved." John 3:17. God's purpose in sending Jesus to this earth was to save us. This was His special gift to us. As you think of Christ's birth, recognize His purpose in coming. Let it be a time of thankfulness in your heart for God's love for you expressed in Jesus. "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift." II Cor. 9:15.

Sister Eileen Broadwater



## SIXTY YEARS AGO

December 15, 1924

### CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

K. D. Henry

The Christmas time has come again. There is no other time of all the year when such universal joy and happiness sweeps over the Christian world as on this, the natal day of our Savior. It is altogether fitting and proper that this is so, for on this day almost two thousand years ago was consummated the prophecies and visions and meditations of four thousand years. In this age of hurry and hustle we can scarcely conceive of the meditations which must have filled the minds of devout men and women in the dim shadowy ages of the long ago.

Meditations so devout and holy that brought the Christ even into their lives, meditations which enabled Job fifteen hundred years before Christ's birth to burst forth with the most implicit confidence, "I know that my Redeemer liveth and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth, and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold, and not another", and enabled David the man after God's own heart, in spirit to call him Lord, saying, "The Lord said unto my Lord, sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool." We are often made to wonder what the result would be if the members of our own beloved church could say in the fullest confidence and implicit faith, "I know", but so often we are compelled to cry out in the words of the father of the child who was possessed of a dumb spirit, "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."

The prophecies concerning the birth of Christ are quite numerous. The first promise given is found in Genesis 3:15, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." No man can justly accuse God of not having thought of us and planned for our best happiness. Had our first parents not transgressed and had man continued in innocency, no doubt God would have extended the borders of Eden until it would have included the entire earth, and man would still be living under the benign guidance of God himself in a world free from sorrows. Death would be unknown. The earth would have yielded its increase abundantly without the thorn and the thistle and our crops would be free of weeds.

God commendeth his love towards us so much that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. When man transgressed and fell from the high plane on which he had been created and became subject to sin, sorrow and death, even eternal death. God met his

condition by the promise of a Savior who would come as a babe, live among men that he might know how frail we are and how prone to sin we are, so that he might be our mediator in the fullest degree, give his blood on the cross so that we through his shed blood might become heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. Abraham also is assured that in his seed all nations should be blessed.

This Christ, the Savior of the world, was born of a virgin — a woman clean and pure physically and spiritually as the new-fallen snow, a woman whose ancestry could be traced through the long chain of prophecies to Adam and through Adam — because he was directly created by God — even to God himself. No wonder God said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Micah, the prophet, sings the birth of the Savior seven centuries before his birth in the following beautiful words, "But thou Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall come forth unto me he that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Hosea refers to the Christ by saying, "And called my son out of Egypt," referring to the time when his parents were compelled to flee into Egypt to escape the vengeance of Herod.

Great had been God's concern for fallen man, great his preparation for the advent of his son, and we need not be astonished that his birth took place under the most extraordinary circumstances. Universal peace reigned supreme. Heaven and earth vied with each other to announce the birth of the Christ, the Savior of the world. The wise men of the orient were led by the star of the east. The angel opened the pearly gates of heaven to announce unto the shepherds, "Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord", and then suddenly the gates were opened wide and a multitude of the heavenly host sang the most exquisite song man ever heard, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." This song has been ringing down through the centuries which separate us from the birth of the only begotten Son of God. The announcement of his birth is without parallel in the history of the world. No king or potentate of earth had such splendor, such magnificence as was displayed in announcing his birth. And yet with the exception of the absolute purity of the mother, the nobility of character of the foster father, no child, perhaps was born more lowly than he who some day shall be king of kings and Lord of Lords.

"He came unto his own, and his own received him not", was true not only through his entire life but sadly true even at his birth. Rejected, despised, shunned because they were Galileans, the parents were compelled to pass the night not in the inn where

reposed those of supposedly nobler ancestry, but in the stable so that they of "higher station" might not be contaminated by their presence. Even to this day there is no room in the hearts of many people for him who died for them. Sad, almost unbelievably sad as this is, the judgment "sad, sad it will be, no room in heaven for thee," will be infinitely sadder to those who reject him now.

Doesn't it seem strange that all this splendor and magnificence displayed in the announcement should have been only to the unlearned shepherds? Not one of the "nobler" Jews, no even those who were favored with the best the inn could provide suspected while they reposed on beds of splendor that heaven stooped low to impart unto these simple folks the greatest message God ever gave to man. Christ upon one occasion said, "I thank thee, oh Father, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and the prudent and hast revealed them unto babes." To the wise everything must be proved. God's word has been subjected to scientific investigation and because some things will not bear this scientific investigation it is not accepted by the learned. Nicodemus, that learned man of the Sanhedrin failed utterly to comprehend Jesus when he said, "Ye must be born again." The unlearned fisherman accepted Christ's teachings and understood, at least partly, later.

The Jews, who should have received the news of the birth of the Savior of the world with joy unspeakable, received the news with eyes that saw not, and ears that heard not, and hearts that perceived not. To this day the Jew is still anxiously expecting the birth of the Savior, whose birth, according to the Talmud will be heralded by a beautiful star of six colors. Because of his failure to accept Christ as the Savior, he is a wanderer today, alienated from his home land. No wonder Jesus, just a short time before his crucifixion, as he overlooked Jerusalem, said with an anguish that the human mind can scarce comprehend, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathered her chickens under her wings, and yet ye would not."

Our present observance of Christmas is a combination of customs which have come to us from various sources. The giving of presents was a Roman custom; the Christmas tree originated probably, from the old Teutonic nature worship by means of the yule tree and yule log, the lighted tapers, possibly, comes from the Jewish feast of purification. Altogether, it is a heathenish observance rather than a Christian observance. In fact there is no Scripture stating or implying that his birth should be observed in any manner. Christ very implicitly bade his followers observe his death, but is absolutely silent concerning his birth.

Christmas certainly should mean much to the Christian. "It



brought my Savior from above to die on calvary," but unless we exercise great care in its observance we utterly fail to discern his birth. Far better would it be to observe the day in prayer, meditation and fasting, than, as is the usual custom, by feasting and over indulgence.

### **A GREAT LOVE**

I think it's nice  
There was a Christ  
Who Shed His blood for me,  
His Life He'd give  
So I could live  
A life from sin set free.

What a great love  
Had God above  
That He sent Christ to earth  
So He could teach  
Others to preach  
Of that Great Second Birth!

So I can own  
A Heav'nly Home  
Where there's a Golden Street,  
That place where God  
And Son do trod  
And that I can THEM meet.

None can compare  
To mansions rare  
Or to those pearly gates,  
There is no night  
For Christ's the Light  
In Glory that awaits.

It is pure bliss  
To think of this  
And of Saints that will rise,  
That there's no tears,  
No pain nor fears  
Up there beyond the skies.

IF I live true  
And YOU do too,  
We'll see that Crystal Stream,  
That fruit-filled tree,  
AND we shall see  
FATHER AND SON SUPREME.

- Irene Stout

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb." (Ps. 37:1-2)

Now is the time to look back over your year and evaluate your life. Have you really worked at being God's child? Have you been envious because others who "weren't as good as you were" seemed to do so well this past year?

It seems that the unfairness and injustice of life is one of the hardest things to take, even for the Christian. You may get so envious of the people who go their "merry way" of irresponsibility and illegitimacy that you feel your struggle for righteousness is just futile.

Others seem to get away with murder and you can't get away with anything. You try to do things right each day, you work towards honesty and frugality and the more you try to do things right the more you find you are not appreciated as you should be! You may even be ridiculed, while the other people go "scott free." Sound familiar?

Did you know that these thoughts seem to pass through the psalmist David's mind? They are not unique to you. They are not totally bad and unproductive because it shows that you are looking carefully at the society around you. You are honestly judging the injustices in the world caused by the refusal of men to adhere to God's principles.

People who try to do things God's way have a difficult road ahead of them. You are called to a life of conflict. Given a choice between a life of comfort and a life of conflict, most people naturally choose the first. But the one who is committed to Christ has, in making that commitment, chosen the latter. To go Christ's way means exactly going His way... and His way led to the cross.

Christ suffered not only the agony of Calvary but the anguish of rejection and the pain of misrepresentation. He knew the literal meaning of the Psalm that speaks of being "slain for upright conversation." And your pressure grows!

Turning the other cheek might get wearisome. Giving rather than receiving seems expensive! Having your good works abused, your desire to help ridiculed, your sacrificial living mocked, your responsible life-style turned to the advantage of the ungodly is difficult to take. But such conflict and sacrifice and discipline are the ingredients that, mixed with faith, make for a vital spiritual experience.

If you are a hot head, you lost control! Inexperience over-reacts, experience calculates more carefully.

Don't give up! Taking that course is not acceptable because it discounts the Lord. Through all of the turmoil, God will ultimately triumph. "The Lord upholdeth the righteous." Through your experiences the Lord will bring you to an inheritance which will be forever. The forces outside God will not win. They can frustrate, infuriate and intimidate, but they can not obliterate because the Lord has reserved the final triumph for Himself. All injustice and disregard will one day be judged. "The wicked shall perish." The Lord says categorically that everyone who is oppressive to the Christian will someday be judged at the Great White Throne and will spend their eternity in hell.

If you continue to resist the pressures and swim against the world's tide you will finally discover that you chose the right course. You WILL inherit the earth!

It is important that you continue to cope with injustices God's way. You will demonstrate to a watching world the reserves of strength and resources you have for survival that those watching do not possess. You will have a testimony to the world that is sadly needed at this time in history.

The Early Church clearly showed to an incredulous world that Christians could take unbelievable abuse, suffer hardship and triumph so thoroughly that even her oppressors and abusers were compelled to come to Christ.

Your trust in the Lord will ultimately triumph and be rewarded. If you can trust Him to work out the final results, you will not need to worry about yourself. You will be free to do the right thing, knowing that God will look after you for it. Don't "pay someone back!" God will do it in His perfect timing.

The unfortunate thing about injustice is that it makes you concentrate on it. When something goes wrong for you, it is sometimes difficult to remember all the things that have gone right. It requires discipline of mind and will to delight in the Lord in times of difficulty. It takes Christ-like desire to work out a reconciliation instead of concentrating on recrimination.

God is perfecting people for glory rather than protecting people from unpleasantness. In fact, He uses the injustices as lessons to lead us further in our relationship with Him. Paul certainly learned things in prison that he could never have learned anywhere else. He learned to be patient and faithful in a smelly prison cell.

Three things are a must as you confront injustices. First, do not fret about it, secondly "cease from anger" and finally, "Depart from evil." One bad turn does not deserve another. Evil reactions to evil deeds are still evil... so don't stoop to sin in response to sin.

I believe that those who love Jesus and respect His ways should be



constantly on the alert for abuses of His principles in society and should also be ready to act on behalf of the oppressed in the name of the Lord. But in all their activities they should never stoop to evil. We can't do evil that good may come of it.

May God bless you with special grace to be an overcomer for Him in the new year.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## BRINGING IN THE SHEAVES

Psalms 126: We all know there is a seed time and harvest; winter, summer, spring and fall. The Lord has done great things for us. They that sow in tears, the heart is made glad, that they will reap in joy. We are not condemned when we go forth weeping bearing precious seed. There are times we don't see the fruit of our work. He that reapeth and he that soweth may rejoice together.

When we plant a seed in our garden it does not look like much but when it comes forth it is beautiful. Many times as I go down town and see the sign overhead about water, wealth, contentment, I think of the wonderful world we are permitted to live in. I often wonder if we are thankful for this wonderful privilege. We all know it takes water and plenty of sunshine for seeds to grow. Many times we have to dig deep to get water.

There are three things important in the parable of the Sower. First, the sower, next, the seed, and last, the soil. Sowing sparingly we will reap sparingly. It is the same in the Christian life, if we sow sparingly, we will reap the same way. We may sow by the wayside, along the highway, in stony soil, in a thorny ground or in good soil. When the seed is sown in the wrong place it can't start to grow as the wind blows it away. The devil is always out to try to discourage a Christian. If the seed has no soil or water it will not grow. We get all worked up when we are among the thistles and briers and there is no room for Christ to come and work with us. We can get off our course and fall into the hands of Satan. If we are not careful the good seed will fall among those who are his followers who practice adultery, impurity, fornication, and our good seed will be lost. We need good seed, an honest heart, a tender heart.

An honest heart is one which has known the Lord and followed Him to the foot of the cross. One who understands, receives the Word of God and is bringing forth fruit, which is so necessary in this Christian walk of life. Some bring one hundred fold, some sixty, and some thirty. One must understand the Word, and go out and work in the work of the Lord. When we have the joy of salvation, sinners will be converted. We must be at peace with all the dear ones in the fold

of Jesus Christ.

Is one ready to go out and work with an unsaved soul? If we live in the spirit we will walk in the spirit. We see the fields are ripe and labourers are so few. Let us pray the Lord of the harvest to send more labourers. If we sow in the wind we will reap a whirlwind. Be not deceived, God is not mocked. Whatsoever we sow we are sure to reap. If we go out and sow precious seed, He will come again rejoicing bringing in the sheaves.

Sow to the spirit, helping some soul to give his heart to Christ. This is what Christ expects of you — individual work. Help us, Lord, to go out and bring souls to the foot of the Cross. We will see rejoicing and tears will flow before the harvest is ended.

We don't know how long the Lord will tarry and so many are still out of the ark of safety. We have to yield our lives into His service before it is too late. Help us, Lord, to gather more sheaves into the fold. This is what the Lord expects of His children. Are we doing our part? If not, why not?

Sister E. M. Alltus

## **SATURDAY THE JEWISH SABBATH, OR, SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY, WHICH?**

William Root

We vindicate our proposition further, using the striking figure of Abraham with his two wives; which is described by Paul in his Galatian letter, Gal. 4:22-31, "For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a free woman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the free woman was by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the scriptures? Cast out the bondwoman and her son; for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the free woman. So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free." "To be heir with the son of the free woman," most emphatically

means to turn from Sinaic law, the law of Moses, and be joined to Christ. As Hagar and Sarah could not dwell together, so neither can the law and the Gospel. Therefore the "Ten Commandments," as written in the law, was transformed a new law, written in the Gospel. When you arrive at the substance, the shadow ceases. "No man putteth a new piece of cloth unto an old garment," or "new wine into old bottles", Jesus said. Sabbatarians violate this teaching; they try to put a new piece of cloth (the Gospel) to an old garment (ordinances and institutions of the law). They vainly seek to join Hagar and Sarah. As Abraham was called upon to hear Sarah and drive out Hagar, so are we called upon to hear Christ, "for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." The apostle sums up the proposition by saying, Gal. 5:1, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."

Our next proposition, of the above subject is, Sabbaths were to cease. The first Scripture text on this proposition is, We call your attention again to the Lord's Word, through the mouth of His prophet Hosea. Hos. 2:11, "I will cause her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts." This is God's Word and that Word is sure, God is a God who changeth not, and "His Word is settled in heaven." The text above quoted clearly includes all the days kept sacred by the Jews, and plainly declares that they shall cease. Also this prophecy has parallels in the Scriptures, and they have a special mission, which is to confront Judaizing teachers, who teach throughout the Gospel Dispensation, as they taught in the days of the apostles. Also the apostle Paul, in writing to the Colossians, gives further evidence in support of our proposition. Col. 2:14-17, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holy-day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days. Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ."

The word "ordinance" is defined, "an established rite, or ceremony". Hence, the keeping of the Sabbath was an ordinance included in the text. Again, "which were against us." The Decalogue was against us in the following particulars: (1) The penalty was death in nearly every instance. (2) The manner of keeping the Sabbath. (a) They were to do no work, (b) They were not to go out on the Sabbath, Exod. 16:29. (c) They were to kindle no fires on the Sabbath, Exod. 35:3. (3) The law of their ceremonies rendered it a burden. The above was surely a part of the yoke "that neither our fathers nor we were able to bear." The apostle says, as quoted above, "They



could not endure that which was commanded." He was alluding to Sinai, hence the Decalogue is clearly included in the law "that was against us."

Friend, Christ has taken the old law of Moses out of the way, "nailing it to the cross." Why do preachers of our modern day, emphasize so strongly that we, the people are to be saved by keeping the "Ten Commandments," as written in the law?... why not, rather, point sinners to the keeping of the commandments written in the Gospel? How clear, that which is written in the Gospel, that, "we are freed from the law; that being dead wherein we were held!" Under the old law persons were judged for their meat, their drink, and their Sabbaths; just like Sabbatarians tell us we should not eat pork but keep the Sabbath, and so forth. Not so under the Gospel. Paul further explains, "One man esteemeth one day above another; another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." Rom. 14:5. The law governing their ceremonies being past, hence the ceremonies ceased.

Selected by Joseph Lavy

## **MARRIAGE**

### **STUMP — HOFFMAN**

Sister Donna Stump, daughter of Bro. and Sis. John Stump, Bernville, Pennsylvania and Carl Hoffman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hoffman, Bernville, Pennsylvania were united in marriage October 6, 1984 by Bro. Merle Sweitzer at the Camp Swatara Campgrounds.

The couple will make their home at Box 632, R.D. #1, Wernersville, Pennsylvania 19565.

## **NEWS ITEM**

### **NOTICE**

Notice to the teachers of children's Sunday School Classes. Looseleaf children's lessons with a story on one side and a picture on the other side are available from the Bible Study Board. These are the same lessons as the previously used booklet "Favorite Bible Stories" and are the lessons recommended by the Bible Study Board for 1985. They are available from Bro. Warren Smith, 26270 Highway 50, McClave, Colorado 81057.

## OBITUARY

### MICHAEL W. NOLL

Brother Michael W. Noll entered into Eternal Rest on Friday, October 19, 1984 at the age of 29 years, 2 months, and 8 days after an accident at his work.

He was born August 11, 1955 and was the son of Brother and Sister Vincent Noll with whom he resided. He spent most of his life in the area near Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, where he was actively engaged in business with his father.

He became a member of the Dunkard Brethren Church at an early age. He attended services at Brightbills Meeting House near Campbelltown, a part of the Mechanicsburg Congregation. He many times served as an usher and was eager to do what ever he could do whenever he was needed to help the work of the Lord.

Two brothers, Stephen and Daniel Noll; six sisters, Rachael, Esther, Rhoda, Lydia and Andrea Noll, and Mrs. Sarah Wolfe, survive him in addition to his parents.

Funeral services were held at the Hanoverdale Church of the Brethren near Hershey, Pennsylvania on October 23, 1984 at 2 p.m. Brother Norman Patrick and Brother Paul Hartz officiated. The funeral text was Hebrews 9:27. "And as it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment." Hymns, "My Jesus as Thou Wilt" and "Abide With Me" were lined and sung. The Meeting House was nearly filled with many kindly Brethren and Sisters, and friends who came to share in the service.

Burial was made in the adjoining cemetery.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the Dear Brethren and Sisters and Kind Friends for the many expressions of love and sympathy which were extended to us after the passing of our Dear Son, Michael Noll.

Thank you so much for your loving support.

Brother and Sister Vincent Noll



### SPIRIT'S OFFICE

To unconverted persons, much of the Bible resembles a letter written in cipher. The Spirit's office is to act as God's decipherer, by letting His people into the secret of those sweet mysteries of grace which were before as a garden shut up, or as a fountain sealed, or as a book written in an unknown character. It is the Spirit's influence that brings men to God, and leads them to yearn for something purer.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JANUARY 1985

### THE BEGINNING

Memory Verse: Gen. 1:1

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

Tues. 1 - Gen. 1:1-31

Wed. 2 - Gen. 49:1-33

Thurs. 3 - Exod. 12:1-14

Fri. 4 - Num. 10:1-13

Sat. 5 - Job 8:1-22

Memory Verse: Psalms 119:160

"Thy word is true from the beginning; and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever."

Sun. 6 - Job 42:1-17

Mon. 7 - Psalms 119:137-160

Tues. 8 - Pro. 8:1-36

Wed. 9 - Pro. 1:1-33

Thurs. 10 - Pro. 9:1-18

Fri. 11 - Pro. 17:1-28

Sat. 12 - Ecc. 3:1-22

Memory Verse: Pro. 1:7

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Pro. 9:10

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Sun. 13 - Ecc. 7:1-29

Mon. 14 - Ecc. 10:1-20

Tues. 15 - Isaiah 18:1-7

Wed. 16 - Isaiah 40:1-31

Thurs. 17 - Isaiah 41:1-29

Fri. 18 - Isaiah 46:1-13

Sat. 19 - Isaiah 48:1-22

Memory Verse: Isaiah 48:3

"I have declared the former things

from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I shewed them; I did them suddenly, and they came to pass."

Sun. 20 - Isaiah 64:1-12

Mon. 21 - Jer. 17:1-27

Tues. 22 - Ruth 3:1-18

Wed. 23 - Ezek. 36:8-38

Thurs. 24 - Dan. 9:1-27

Fri. 25 - Micah 1:1-16

Sat. 26 - Matt. 14:15-36

Memory Verse: John 1:1-2

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."

Sun. 27 - Matt. 24:1-31

Mon. 28 - John 15:1-27

Tues. 29 - John 7:41-71

Wed. 30 - Eph. 3:1-21

Thurs. 31 - Rev. 1:1-20

Memory Verse: Rev. 21:6

"And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely."

I John 2:13

"I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you little children, because ye have known the Father."